

## Weinberger visits ship off Beirut

BOARD THE USS GUAM (AP) — U.S. Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger on Wednesday praised the Marines for their work in Lebanon and blamed the continuing presence of "foreign forces" for the nation's turmoil. Mr. Weinberger, addressing about 700 Marines aboard this amphibious ship cruising 24 kilometres off Beirut's coast, also said that the United States has not changed its policy of providing naval and air support for the Lebanese government, despite reports to the contrary out of Washington. The defence secretary said that President Reagan made the decision Feb. 7 to withdraw the Marines from their airport base "down in the middle of a bullseye" to U.S. ships offshore because diplomatic efforts had failed to secure the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon. Mr. Weinberger arrived unexpectedly on board the ship for a short visit and later left for Cyprus en route to an undisclosed destination.

# Jordan Times

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## Trudeau announces intention to quit

OTTAWA (R) — Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau Wednesday announced his intention to resign. Mr. Trudeau's press secretary said the prime minister would step down as soon as the ruling Liberal Party selected a new leader. Press Secretary Ralph Coleman said Mr. Trudeau, 64, who has been Canada's leader since 1968 apart from one brief nine-month period out of office, told Liberal Party President Iona Campagnolo of his decision in a hand-delivered letter Wednesday morning. Mr. Trudeau's resignation will be effective from the day "a new leader is chosen and sworn in," Mr. Coleman said. Mr. Trudeau's most likely successor at the moment is former Finance Minister John Turner, who resigned from his cabinet post in 1975 over policy differences and has worked since as a lawyer in Toronto.

## King reassures West Bankers

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein received Wednesday representatives of the West Bank and assured them that Jordan will always stand in their support regardless of the consequences. The King told the representatives: "Your steadfastness has been a source of pride for all Arabs and Jordan will not abandon its support for you whatever the costs." The delegation, which arrived in Amman Monday, met Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat Tuesday and submitted to him a memorandum to co-ordinate the PLO's moves with Jordan "to liberate the West Bank from the Israeli occupation before it is too late."

## Queen opens new art gallery wing

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Wednesday opened the newly constructed second floor of the Jordan National Gallery. The Queen toured the new section and inspected the 250 paintings on display in addition to works of sculpture by artists from Jordan and other Arab and Islamic countries. The opening ceremony was attended by Princess Wijdan Ali, president of the Royal Society for Fine Arts, Minister of Culture, Youth and Antiquities, Abdullah Oweidat, Governor of the Central Bank of Jordan, Mohammed Sa'ad Al Nabulsi, the gallery director Suhail Bisharat, members of the diplomatic corps and an invited audience.

## Gandhi pessimistic over Gulf mediation

JEDDAH (R) — Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was quoted Wednesday as saying she saw no imminent end to the 41-month-old Gulf war between Iran and Iraq. Asked by the Saudi daily Al-Bilad whether she saw any hope of an end to the conflict in the near future, Mrs. Gandhi said: "At this moment I can see no hope."

## S. Arabia rejects foreign intervention

RIVADH (R) — Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal said Wednesday his country did not want foreign intervention in the Gulf. "Escalation of the (Iran-Iraq) war could affect navigation in the Gulf, which in turn could lead to foreign intervention and this is something we do not want," Prince Saud said in answer to a question at a news conference.

## UAE minister arrives in Syria

DAMASCUS (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) minister of state for foreign affairs, Rashid Abdullah Al Nuaimi, arrived in Damascus Wednesday for talks with Syrian leaders on the situation in the Arab World, the Syrian news agency SANA reported. His arrival coincides with a visit to Damascus by Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hassan Sheikh Ol-Islam, who arrived Tuesday night with a message from Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati.

# Jordan, PLO reach basic agreement on dialogue

By Laila K. Andoni  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Wednesday concluded four days of top-level talks with a basic agreement to continue the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, but without reaching any specific formula for pursuing joint efforts on the Palestinian problem.

His Majesty King Hussein and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, who arrived here Sunday, held a series of meetings earlier in the week to map out a joint strategy for future moves on the Middle East, and Mr. Arafat is expected to wind up his official visit with a meeting with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, who arrived in Amman for a 24-hour visit on Wednesday.

In the meetings with the PLO chairman and his delegation, "we reached a basic agreement of principles upon which we could move in the future," Minister of Information Laila Sharaf told the

Jordan Times on Wednesday. "But no specific elements of any concrete nature have been agreed upon," Mrs. Sharaf said. Mrs. Sharaf added that the Jordan-PLO talks were conducted in a spirit of good will and "have been successful in clearing the atmosphere that prevailed after the breakdown of our earlier talks with the PLO" on April 10 last year. "We have managed to build the infrastructure for joint moves in the future," Mrs. Sharaf said. "But I would not characterise our agreement as an initiative nor as a formula for solving the Palestinian



Mrs. Laila Sharaf

problem," she added. The talks between Jordan and the PLO broke down last April for failure to reach an agreement on a formula that co-ordinates a joint political action. But last week Mr. Arafat arrived in Jordan upon an invitation from the King to resume the dialogue. A statement on the results of the talks was expected to be issued

Wednesday night or Thursday morning.

Earlier Wednesday, a senior PLO official told the Jordan Times "that a basic agreement defining future (Jordan-PLO) relations has been reached." The official did not disclose any details of the agreement, but said that the dialogue will continue.

He said that Mr. Arafat is expected to leave for Tunis on Wednesday or Thursday but he might stop in Saudi Arabia for a short visit, but will return after two weeks to resume the talks.

Palestinian sources told the Jordan Times that Mr. Arafat is pressing for an early convening of the Palestine National Council (PNC), the Palestinian parliament in exile, to formulate the PLO's future policies.

The PNC meeting was scheduled to be held in February in Algiers but was postponed to an unspecified date due to failure to settle differences between Fatah, the mainstream movement in the PLO, and other PLO factions in the aftermath of Mr. Arafat's unexpected visit to Cairo last December.



His Majesty King Hussein and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat Wednesday meet officers of the Royal Jordanian Air Force who took part in a military exercise watched by the King and Mr. Arafat (Petra photo)

## King, Arafat watch military exercises

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein and Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat Wednesday attended military exercises by units of the Third Royal Armoured Division, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. Following the visit, the King and the PLO chairman paid a visit to an air base where they met with the commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force and other senior officers. They watched formations

of aircraft taking off and toured the base. They also met with officers who presented a briefing on the duties and activities of the base.

The two leaders were accompanied by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, PLO deputy military commander Khalil Al Wazir and senior officers from the Jordanian Armed Forces.

## Hussein visits Azraq oil exploration site



His Majesty King Hussein, accompanied by Natural Resources Authority officials and technicians, AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday expressed his satisfaction with the work of specialists at oil exploration wells at Azraq and praised the team's endeavours, and loyalty to their country.

The King was speaking during a tour of the Kurma well site at Azraq, where he inspected exploration and drilling operations. The discovery of oil in the region is hoped to usher a new and bright era for Jordan and help the country achieve self-sufficiency, the King said. During his tour, King Hussein was briefed by

Wednesday tours the site of oil exploration activities in Azraq (Petra photo)

Natural Resources Authority (NRA) Vice-President Ahmad Dakhlan on the progress of exploration work and the future plans. He also heard a briefing by NRA President Yusuf Al Nimri on the production capacity of the well and drilling operations in the whole region.

Later King Hussein watched oil flowing from the well and the process of burning of crude and acids. The King was accompanied on the visit by Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem.

\*Obeidat visits oil exploration site, page 3

## Gemayel meets Assad

DAMASCUS (R) — Presidents Hafez Al Assad of Syria and Amin Gemayel of Lebanon Wednesday held a second round of talks here, continuing discussions diplomats say centre on how Lebanon will go about scrapping its troop withdrawal accord with Israel. The two men met earlier Wednesday at a meeting also attended by Syrian Prime Minister Abdul Raouf Al Kassab, the two countries' foreign ministers and other officials.

The diplomatic sources said there was speculation that abrogation of the agreement with Israel, signed last May, could be announced in Damascus, or at resumed national reconciliation talks between Lebanon's warring factions in Geneva.

Syria and its Lebanese opposition allies have demanded that the accord be scrapped, saying it jeopardised Syrian security and infringed Lebanon's sovereignty and independence, as well as legitimising Israeli gains from its June 1982 invasion.

The Lebanese president is under strong pressure from his country's predominantly Christian right-wing factions not to scrap the agreement.

But he has been forced to make concessions to Syria and its allies by opposition military victories in the fighting in Lebanon and withdrawal of American, Italian and British peacekeeping troops from

Beirut, the sources said.

Mr. Gemayel's meeting with Mr. Assad, which follows months of negotiations by Saudi mediators shuttling between Beirut and Damascus, marks his first visit to Syria since he took office in September 1982.

He had been due to come to Damascus last November, but the trip was postponed at the last minute because of Mr. Assad's sudden illness.

The sources described the meeting as the start of a thaw in relations between the two governments, soured by the Israeli invasion and Mr. Gemayel's previous dependence on the United States to secure withdrawal of foreign troops from his country.

The Lebanese president received a warm welcome from Mr. Assad and other Syrian officials when he arrived at Damascus' old airport in a chartered Swiss plane carrying the Red Cross.

Syrian newspapers, meanwhile, stressed Wednesday there could be no solution to the Lebanon crisis without Syria's acquiescence.

"No political move or proposal for Lebanon will succeed if it contradicts Syria's position and principles," the official Al Thawra newspaper said in a front-page editorial.

Saudi Arabia urges active U.S. diplomatic role in Lebanon, page 2

## Gulf tension rises as flare-up develops

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iran's latest war offensive against Iraq entered its second week Wednesday, with both sides locked in heavy ground fighting and increased tension in the strategic Gulf waterway.

Iraq, which said more than 30,000 Iranian troops have been killed in the past few days, has acknowledged that Iran is holding the oil-rich Majnoon Island in Iraq's southeastern marshland.

Iran, meanwhile, said it would not accept conditions laid down by Washington that all planes and vessels maintain a certain distance from U.S. ships in the Gulf unless with prior consent.

The United States, which has about 30 warships in the Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean, has pledged to maintain free passage in the Gulf, which Iran has threatened to seal at the Strait of Hormuz if Iraq disrupts its oil shipments (U.S. officials doubt Iranian ability to block Hormuz, page 2).

In a move that threatened to escalate the 41-month-old war, Iraq reported on Monday its planes had bombed tankers at Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal.

Iran denied the Iraqi report, which has received no independent confirmation so far. U.S. officials in Washington said Tuesday the war was in much the same deadlocked state with no significant shift in the battle lines.

In Paris, Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan said Tuesday night his country would attack any oil tanker heading for Kharg. The export terminal near the head of the Gulf lies within an Iraqi-imposed war zone.

Mr. Ramadan, in Paris for talks with French leaders, told a news conference that the blockade on Kharg would remain in force as long as Iran denied Iraqi shipping access to the Gulf. The Iranian counterthreat to blockade Hormuz, closing off the Gulf to all oil tankers and other shipping, was "of no interest" to Iraq because its own ships have long been barred, he added.

Mr. Ramadan, the third ranking Iraqi official, said the Iranians had "gained a few kilometres here and there" in their current offensive, but added: "Battles are not measures in the number of kilometres gained or lost, but in the final outcome. The limited Iranian advances were stopped with a very heavy cost to the enemy, in accordance with a precise plan. There was no breakthrough."

Last month, Washington warned all vessels to stay eight kilometres from U.S. navy ships in the Gulf and all planes to fly at least 600 metres overhead unless they had prior agreement.

In Tehran, an Iranian foreign ministry spokesman said Tuesday Washington would be responsible for any incident caused by U.S. actions in the Gulf.

Iraq said Tuesday it had won the biggest victory of the war by crushing an Iranian offensive and driving Iranian forces back across the border near the southern city of Basra.

"Iraq's flag was hoisted at the last fortified position held by the Iranians at the Iraqi village of Al Beidha," a battle commander said in a cable to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Iran, meanwhile, reported a victory for its troops 145 kilometres north of Basra, at Iraq's Majnoon Island, eight kilometres from the border.

An Iraqi commander interviewed by the Associated Press in the town of Azar, about 88 kilometres north of Basra, verified that Iran maintained control of Majnoon. But the commander, Major-General Hisham Sabah Fakhr, said Iraq had pushed Iranian troops out of much of the surrounding marshland.

The Iraqi commander told reporters the Majnoon Island would be "purged" and the Iranians holding it crushed soon in a major offensive (See story on page 3).

Reuters correspondent Subby Haddad reported that journalists were shown 150 Iranian prisoners-of-war, among them children aged between 11-16 years old.

## Hart stuns Mondale

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire (R) — Senator Gary Hart, promising new ideas and new blood, has won a stunning early victory over favourite Walter Mondale in the battle for the U.S. Democratic presidential nomination.

Rising like a meteor in the opposition party's race for the White House, the 47-year-old Colorado senator beat former Vice-President Mondale by more than 10 percentage points in Tuesday's New Hampshire presidential primary, first of the 1984 election season.

Ohio Sen. John Glenn finished a distant third as New Hampshire voters, apparently signalling a weariness with old faces, changed the Democratic race from a Mondale runaway into a David-Goliath duel between upstart Hart and well-financed and well-organised Mondale.

A subdued Mondale conceded defeat but predicted he would win the nomination anyway.

## Hussein, Gonzalez discuss Mideast

By Salameh B. Ne'matt  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez arrived here from Saudi Arabia Wednesday and held talks with His Majesty King Hussein at the Royal Palace. Officials accompanying Mr. Gonzalez said talks were centred on Middle East peace efforts and Spain's plans on diplomatic relations with Israel.

Prior to his departure from Riyadh after concluding a two-day visit to Saudi Arabia, Mr. Gonzalez told Reuters referred to what he described as Israeli inflexibility towards the Palestinian question and said: "In the light of this conduct, it would be useless for other countries including Spain, to try to give Israel what it wants in the belief that Israel would come to its senses."

Officials said that Mr. Gonzalez, who has stressed

Spanish support for Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat throughout his Middle East trip, was expected to meet the Palestinian leader late Wednesday night or Thursday morning. The officials attached special importance to Mr. Gonzalez's talks in Jordan because of the renewed dialogue between King Hussein and Mr. Arafat. Observers say that Spain seeks a larger role in the Middle East peace efforts.

Saudi Arabia's foreign minister, Prince Saud Al Faisal, said earlier Wednesday that Spanish recognition of Israel would be an empty-handed gesture that would not contribute to peace in the Middle East. The foreign minister's statement was interpreted as a warning to the Madrid government of an unfavourable Saudi reaction to the possibility of full Spanish-Israeli relations.

The Spanish prime minister was received at the airport by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, Minister of Trade, Industry and Tourism Jawad Al Anani, Spanish Ambassador to Jordan Emilio Menendez del Valle and high-ranking Jordanian officials.

## Car bomb kills 2 in west Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — A car bomb exploded in mainly Muslim west Beirut and rival militias bombed residential areas of the city Wednesday as President Amin Gemayel met Syrian leader Hafez Al Assad in a summit seen as a turning-point in his foreign policy.

At least two people were killed and 27 wounded by the car bomb, which blew up between two apartment blocks in a wealthy area of the capital, state-run Beirut Radio said.

The bomb, planted in a blue BMW according to a Lebanese Red Cross worker at the scene, set fire to nearby cars, smashed windows and damaged the facades of the two buildings.

It was the first car bomb to explode in Beirut since opposition militias drove army units loyal to Mr. Gemayel out of the western sector three weeks ago.

The blast came in the middle of an afternoon of artillery exchanges between predominantly Christian rightist militias in the east and the opposition forces in the west.

The radio of the rightist forces said shells fell on parts of east Beirut early Wednesday afternoon and snipers shot and wounded several civilians on the east side of

the front lines. Heavy artillery opened up on densely populated areas of the western sector shortly afterwards, apparently in retaliation for the attacks on the east.

Ambulances raced through the streets of the capital and first radio reports said seven people were injured in the bombardments.

"The main rightist militia, the 'Lebanese Forces,' earlier this week accused the mainly Muslim opposition groups of siting field guns in the western sector and vowed to fire back."

Eyewitnesses in east Beirut said "Lebanese Forces" vehicles were touring the streets of east Beirut Wednesday warning people to stay indoors for their safety.

The explosion triggered a fire that destroyed at least eight other cars. It knocked down metal railings from the balconies of a 12-storey building and threw shards of glass into the street, panicking pedestrians.

Neighbours said they did not think the attack had a clear political target because the building houses only average families.

"There's at least two people killed and the figure of injured is between 50 and 75," said Mahmoud Chailila, a 25-year-old rescue worker.

## U.N. reportedly nears decision on Beirut force

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Security Council appeared to be inching towards a decision on a French proposal to dispatch United Nations troops to Beirut to replace the four-nation Multi-National Force.

After three public meetings and extensive closed-door consultations, council members scheduled a further round of private bargaining Wednesday in an air of cautious optimism.

France, which has circulated a revised draft of its original resolution calling for the establishment of a U.N. force, under-

took Tuesday to produce yet another version, mainly to meet remaining Soviet objections.

Britain's Sir John Thomson told reporters: "I think we shall get an agreement... the feeling around the table was we were making progress and that there was a strong desire to reach a consensus... at any rate a resolution against which there were no negative votes."

The United States, Britain and Italy pulled their contingents out of the Multi-National Force (MNF) earlier this month in the face of renewed factional warring

in Beirut, leaving only the French troops in place.

The present draft calls for the U.N. force to move into position as soon as all elements of the MNF have left Lebanese territory and territorial waters.

Western sources said the Soviet Union wished to add the proviso that there must be no renewal of shelling or air bombardment.

This was aimed at blocking any further involvement in the fighting by United States warships stationed off the Lebanese coast or by carrier-based U.S. aircraft, the

sources added.

The Soviet Union was also said to object to wording in the resolution's preamble calling for the withdrawal from Lebanon of all foreign forces whose presence has not been approved by the Lebanese government.

Western sources said the Soviet Union sought to focus on the Israeli troops remaining in southern Lebanon while avoiding even an indirect reference to the Syrian army units that occupy large areas in the north and east of the country.

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## INTER BOOK



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# U.S. officials doubt Iran's ability to close Hormuz

WASHINGTON (AP) — Any Iranian attempt to close the Gulf to oil tankers can be blocked by the U.S. Navy, according to Pentagon officials.

Since the Iran-Iraq war began in 1980, Iran has repeatedly vowed to shut off the Gulf if its oil facility at Kharg Island is attacked, noted the officials, speaking Wednesday only on condition they not be named.

No Iranian attempt to close the Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf has actually been made, the officials noted.

About 40 per cent of the oil used by the non-Communist world flows through the 42-kilometre-wide Strait of Hormuz at the bottom of the Gulf. U.S. President Ronald Reagan said last week that "there is no way we could allow that channel to be closed."

To back up that promise, the Pentagon has five ships in the Gulf and 30 more in the Indian Ocean.

including the aircraft carrier Midway and its four escort ships. They are on station in the northern Arabian Sea within easy striking distance of the Strait of Hormuz.

"We could stop any actual attempt by the Iranians," said one U.S. Navy officer. "But Lloyd's might follow up by effectively doing the job for Iran."

He was referring to worries that Iranian attacks on oil tankers might force a large increase in rates charged by Lloyd's of London, the British insurance syndicate. A rate increase combined with safety fears of tanker captains might slow the steady stream of oil shipments.

Should Iran actually attempt to close the strait, it would have two choices — sinking ships to bar navigation or seeding the area with

mines. But sinking tankers is unlikely to do the job since the strait has a pair of fairly wide ship channels, Pentagon officials said.

Sinking one tanker wouldn't block either channel because wrecks could be blown up by navy planes. It would take a number of ships sunk in strategically placed spots, to create a hazard serious enough to foil the sophisticated navigating devices on modern tankers.

The officials also pointed out that such sinkings could well be beyond the capacities of Iran's small navy or its air force. U.S. intelligence officials speculated that Iran has less than 50 working fighter planes and only a few small naval vessels.

Iran's other option would be to lay mines, but that could also be countered, the Pentagon officials say.

## Iraq vows to 'purge' marshland of Iranians

AL UZAYR, Iraq (R) — Iraq for the first time has acknowledged that Iran was occupying the oil-rich Majnoon Island in southern Iraq's marshland, but said the territory would be "purged" soon.

The commander of East Tigris operations, Maj. Gen. Hisham Sabah Al Fakhr, told correspondents at his headquarters in this small town that the Iranians were still holding the island, at Hawzah marshes, which contain one of the richest oil fields in southern Iraq.

He said: "The best way to destroy them (the Iranians) is to keep them there (in the island) and crush them in a major offensive."

The commander spoke to foreign reporters who arrived Tuesday in this town, 90 kilometres north of Basra Port on the main

Baghdad-Basra road. Iran, which launched an offensive on the southern front last week in the 41-month-old Gulf war with Iraq, said on Friday its forces had seized the Majnoon Island and a few kilometres from the border.

The Iraqi regional commander said the Iranians had attacked this sector with four divisions of mostly irregular troops, using river boats of different sizes, but all had been wiped out except for a few who fled and 150 captured.

He said the Iranians' infiltration through the passages of Hawzah marshes which extend over 1,500 square kilometres was not a surprise for the Iraqi forces.

Reporters saw the 150 prisoners of war, among them children between 11-16 years old, led by several old Mullahs (Muslim

teachers). Gen. Fakhr said that overall the attack was on a front 60 kilometres wide aimed at seizing the main Baghdad-Basra road in Al Qurnah and Al Uzayr towns. He acknowledged that a "very few of them reached the road" but were captured later on.

He said: "The Iranians attacked without air cover and without armour, they captured two villages only... the battle continued for more than 48 hours and ended at 12:30 hours today (1930 GMT Tuesday)."

Gen. Fakhr categorically denied Iranian charges that Iraq used chemical weapons in recent Gulf war battles, in which, he said, the Iranians had lost 30,000 men killed and between 50,000 and 80,000 wounded.

## Sudan reports rebel attack on regional capital

KHARTOUM (AP) — The Sudanese army confirmed Wednesday that guerrillas had shelled a regional capital last week but said no one had been injured.

In a statement distributed by the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA), an army spokesman said rebels had shelled Malakal, the capital of the Upper Nile Region, located some 650 kilometres

south of Khartoum. "The recently reported attack by outlaws was merely a random shelling of the town's outskirts that injured nobody," the army statement said.

SUNA did not say when the attack took place but claimed Sudanese troops had "annihilated" the rebels.

The statement said the town was calm "after the outlaws have been dealt with" and claimed Nile River and land transport to the southern regions had been secured.

Rebels have charged that Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri and his government, dominated north Sudanese Arabs, have short-changed the southern areas in economic developments.



A member of Shi'ite 'Amal' militia fires an AK-47 fighting along Beirut's 'Green Line' continued, assault rifle towards Lebanese army positions as Monday (AP wirephoto)

## S. Arabia urges active U.S. role in Lebanon

WASHINGTON (R) — Saudi Arabia's King Fahd has urged President Reagan to stay actively involved in Lebanon but the United States has rejected Lebanese President Amin Gemayel's request for an extended military commitment, the Washington Post reported Wednesday.

Quoting unnamed diplomatic sources, the paper said the Reagan administration had turned down Mr. Gemayel's request for U.S. naval firepower to maintain the military status quo in Lebanon.

Administration spokesmen had no immediate comment on the

report. The Post said a letter from King Fahd was delivered to Mr. Reagan late Tuesday by the Saudi ambassador shortly after the envoy's return to Washington from the Middle East.

The King warned that disengaging from Lebanon could cause irreparable damage to U.S. influence in the region, the paper reported, quoting sources it said were familiar with the letter.

Administration officials have signalled that the United States now intends to play a passive role in Lebanon, Mr. Reagan's Middle

East envoy Donald Rumsfeld would withdraw from diplomatic efforts to resolve the country's problems, they said on Monday.

Mr. Rumsfeld was not expected to return to Lebanon and would concentrate on Mr. Reagan's plan for an overall middle East peace settlement, they said.

The decision was taken because of the withdrawal of U.S. Marines from Beirut to ships offshore and the absence now of any meaningful U.S. role in trying to stem the violence and encourage reconciliation between warring factions, the officials said.

## Sinai force commander says Israel, Egypt keen on keeping security pact

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — Lt. Gen. Fredrik Bull-Hansen, the Norwegian commander of the Multinational Force monitoring the peace between Egypt and Israel, said Tuesday there had been few violations of the security agreements in the Sinai desert separating the two countries.

"There have been some breaches, but they were more in the nature of bureaucratic errors," he said but refused to explain further, saying that his task was to report to Israel and Egypt, "not to anyone else."

"Both countries are very keen to stick to the agreement," he added in an interview conducted a

month before he was to give up his position to become Norway's defence chief July 1.

The 2,600-member monitoring force, whose general director was killed in a Rome terrorist attack earlier this month, is charged with ensuring that both countries honour the terms of their 1979 Camp David agreement. Since it moved into Egyptian-held Sinai in 1981, Gen. Bull-Hansen said, the ten-nation force has tried to guarantee that "no act of belligerency be allowed to originate in the one country against the other."

Israel has reported incidents of mines planted in the Negev Desert

area bordering Sinai, which killed and wounded several Bedouins, but there have been no published reports of illegal troop movements on either side despite the cold peace on the political level.

The Norwegian officer also said that wherever possible in trouble spots around the world, "we should try and use the United Nations rather than a Multinational Force, because the U.N. has the broadest political backing." But he declined to talk about a widened deployment of United Nations troops in Lebanon or the role of the Norwegian battalion in South Lebanon.

## Arab Gulf states agree to implement Islamic law

By Hamza Heidawi  
Rumor

BAHRAIN — Saudi Arabia and its Gulf allies have agreed to implement strict Islamic "Sharia" law within five years.

The six Gulf states, their Muslim traditions increasingly under the influence of Western ways, decided at a recent meeting in Riyadh to safeguard those traditions by embracing more closely the teachings of God and the Prophet, Mohammed.

The meeting of the justice ministers of Saudi Arabia and the other five members of the Gulf Co-operation Council — Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) — agreed on a five-year plan under which they will move towards implementation of Islamic laws.

Saudi Arabia, home of the puritanical Wahhabist Movement, has largely applied the Sharia laws since the rise to power of the Al Saud family more than half a century ago.

But most of its banks follow capitalist principles while the other Gulf states' legal systems are largely European-style.

Sharia laws, whose application has varied greatly from Islam's early days in the 7th century, are based on the Muslims' holy book, the Koran, and Prophet Mohammed's teachings.

The laws regulate the social, economic and political affairs of society and are supposed to ensure the welfare of every Muslim.

The word "Islam" means "submission" or "surrender" to God. But to Muslims, Islam is more than a religion, it is a culture with religion as the dominating factor determining the character of a Muslim state.

The Riyadh meeting decided to set up a committee of three noted Ulemas (religious scholars) to study how to adapt existing laws to the Sharia. Their recommendations will go to a committee of six Ulemas, one from each of the six Council countries.

"After that," one official told Reuters, "the justice ministers will meet to ratify the recommendations of the Ulemas and leave the matter up to their heads of state."

"Our world has become so complicated, and to adjust the Sharia to present day life is also so complicated that it could take

more than five years, or perhaps less," he said.

Although some aspects of the Sharia are applied in Saudi Arabia — such as amputation of thieves' hands — and to a lesser extent in other Gulf states, it is the remaining tenets of Islamic laws which are likely to prove most difficult to implement, the officials said.

The Western-style banking system, for example, is still predominant in the Gulf while the Sharia forbids the concept of making interest.

Kuwait and the UAE, however, both have a handful of Islamic banks which do not charge interest rates on loans. Commissions are charged instead.

Saudi Arabia, home of the two holiest Muslim shrines of Mecca and Medina, has no Islamic banks operating officially although some private Islamic financial organisations have been allowed to operate as the personal property of princes, according to informed sources in the kingdom.

Alcohol is strictly banned in Saudi Arabia but Interior Ministry statistics reveal that 30 per cent of the more than 14,000 legal cases in 1982 dealt with alcohol abuse.

Other aspects of the Sharia are widely carried out in the vast kingdom, such as complete separation of the sexes in public and a halt in all business activities during prayer periods — five times a day.

Saudi Arabia, whose ruling family, like those in the other Gulf Arab States, in Sunni Muslim, makes a point of carrying out punishments in public, mostly after Friday prayer gatherings.

One problem was that if Islamic banks were set up, this might pose a dilemma by implying that the existing Saudi banking system was un-Islamic, the sources said.

Bahrain, a flourishing island nation with a large Western community, uses parts of the Sharia on civil matters such as marriage, divorce and inheritance. But it allows its people considerable liberties compared with other parts of the Gulf.

Bahrain is the only Arab Gulf state to allow its nationals access to alcohol and women in Bahrain enjoy almost equal footing with men.

In Kuwait, a small Gulf state enjoying massive wealth, the Sharia is also confined to matrimonial matters despite repeated calls for full implementation.

### TV & RADIO

#### JORDAN TELEVISION

**MAIN CHANNEL**  
16:30 ..... Koran  
16:45 ..... Cartoons  
17:10 ..... Children's Programmes  
17:30 ..... Children's Programmes  
18:00 ..... Children's Programmes  
18:30 ..... Children's Programmes  
19:00 ..... Local Competition Programme  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Arabic Series  
21:00 ..... Arabic Play  
21:30 ..... News in Arabic  
22:00 ..... News in Arabic  
22:10 ..... Play Cont.

#### FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 ..... French Programme  
19:00 ..... News in French  
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
20:30 ..... Comedy: Benson  
21:00 ..... Towards Zero  
21:10 ..... Drama: St. Elsewhere  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:15 ..... Feature Film: Raggedy Man — Eric Roberts, Sam Shephard

#### RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 95.60 KHz, SW

07:00 ..... Light Music  
07:30 ..... Newsdesk  
08:00 ..... Morning Show  
08:30 ..... News Summary  
09:00 ..... Morning Show  
10:00 ..... Pop Session  
11:00 ..... News Summary  
12:00 ..... News Summary  
12:30 ..... Pop Session  
13:00 ..... News Summary  
13:30 ..... News Summary  
14:00 ..... News Summary  
14:30 ..... News Summary  
15:00 ..... News Summary  
15:30 ..... News Summary  
16:00 ..... News Summary  
16:30 ..... News Summary  
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20:30 ..... News Summary  
21:00 ..... News Summary  
21:30 ..... News Summary  
22:00 ..... News Summary  
22:30 ..... News Summary  
23:00 ..... News Summary  
23:30 ..... News Summary  
24:00 ..... Close Down

#### BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Cultural Record  
Review 06:45 Financial Review 06:55  
Reflections 07:00 World News: 24  
Hours News: News Summary 07:30  
Peoples' Choice 07:45 The World Today  
08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Nature  
08:45 The Farming World 09:00  
World News: 24 Hours: News Summary  
09:30 Country Style 09:45 Network  
U.K. 10:00 World News 10:09  
Reflections 10:15 Mr. Know-All 10:30 John  
Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British  
Press Review 11:15 The World Today  
11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look  
Ahead 11:45 Edward Edgar: The Making  
of a Composer 12:15 Monitor 12:30  
Yes Minister 13:00 World News: News  
about Britain 13:15 New Ideas 13:25  
The Week in Wales 13:30 Assignment  
14:00 Radio Newsworld 14:15 Top  
Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World  
News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary  
15:30 Network U.K. 15:45 The Pleasure  
of Your 16:30 Discovery 17:00  
Radio Newsworld 17:30 Outlook 18:00  
World News 18:09 Commentary 18:15  
Assignment 18:45 The World Today  
19:00 World News 19:09 Meridian 19:40  
The Week in Wales 19:45 Sports  
Round-up 20:00 Newsdesk 20:30  
Comedians 21:00 Outlook: News Summary  
21:45 Stock Market Report: Look  
Ahead 21:45 Report on Religion 22:00  
World News 22:09 24 Hours: News  
Summary 22:30 A Jolly Good Show  
23:15 Ulster Newsletter 23:30 In the  
Meatline 23:30 News Matters 24:00  
World News 24:09 The World Today  
00:25 The Week in Wales 00:30  
Financial News 00:40 Reflections 00:45  
Sports Round-up 01:00 World News:  
Commentary 01:15 Merchant Navy  
Programme 01:30 Meridian

#### VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260, 1270, 1280, 1290, 1300, 1310, 1320 KHz

06:00 VOA Morning News on the  
hour, news summaries, business report,  
science and medicine; sports reports;  
VOA editorial and world and U.S. opinion  
roundups; analysis, viewpoints,  
features 17:10 News 17:30 Special English  
News and Features 18:00 News  
18:10 Focus 18:30 News USA  
18:40 World News 19:00 Special  
English News and Features 20:00  
News 20:10 Focus 20:30 News USA  
21:00 Newsline 21:30 Magazine.

#### RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 95.60 KHz, SW

07:00 ..... Light Music

### WHAT'S GOING ON

#### TODAY'S EVENTS

**EXHIBITIONS**  
"Portraits of Landscapes from the Middle East" by Wolfgang Tielack at the Goethe Institute at 9:00 a.m.  
"Paintings by Ahmad Na'wash at the University of Jordan's Library at 11:00 a.m.  
"Turkish Carpet exhibition at 10 a.m.: paintings by Sabhat Rashid; and photos by Osman Akuz at the San Rock Hotel.  
"Turkish handicrafts and paintings exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre.  
"Photo exhibition on Romania at the Plastic Artists Association at Jabal Lweishdeh at 4:30 p.m.  
"Le Roman Noir" starts at the French Cultural Centre.

#### FILM

"Festival du film Policier" starts at the French Cultural Centre at 7:30 p.m.

#### VIDEO

"Lulu" and "Television Cooch" film programmes at the San Rock Hotel at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday.

#### MUSIC

"Turkish folk music programme at 9:30 p.m. at the San Rock Hotel.

#### LECTURE

"Discus Turkey" at the San Rock Hotel at 5:30 p.m.

#### CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267  
American Centre Tel. 44371  
British Council Tel. 36147-8  
French Cultural Centre Tel. 37009  
Goethe Institute Tel. 41993  
Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 42403  
Spanish Cultural Centre Tel. 24449  
Turkish Cultural Centre Tel. 39777  
Hays Arts Centre Tel. 665195  
Hussein Youth City Tel. 667181  
Y.W.C.A. Tel. 41793  
Y.W.M.C.A. Tel. 664251

#### AMMAN MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

36111 University of Jordan Library 443555

#### MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.  
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.  
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Mountazah, Jabal Lweishdeh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.  
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664241.  
Supreme Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

#### CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic): Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Tel. 24590.  
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic): Church of the Annunciation (Greek Catholic) Tel. 661757.  
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer): Church of the Redeemer (Anglican) Tel. 41559.  
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh: 71331.

#### PRAYER TIMES

06:41 ..... Fajr  
06:43 ..... (Sunrise) Shuruq  
11:49 ..... Dhahr  
15:05 ..... Asr  
17:34 ..... Maghreb  
18:56 ..... Isha

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

#### AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia International Airport at 010 53250, where it should always be verified.

#### ARRIVALS

07:05 ..... Cairo (MS)  
07:05 ..... Agaba (RJ)  
09:15 ..... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)  
09:45 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
09:45 ..... Dhahran (RJ)  
09:45 ..... Kuwait (RJ)  
09:45 ..... Athens (RJ)  
10:00 ..... Dammam (RJ)  
10:00 ..... Bahrain (RJ)  
10:00 ..... Larnaca (RJ)  
10:00 ..... Dhahran, Riyadh (Saudi)  
10:00 ..... Tripoli, Larnaca (LN)  
10:00 ..... Kuwait (RJ)  
10:00 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
10:00 ..... Athens (RJ)  
10:00 ..... Istanbul, Ankara (TA)  
10:00 ..... London (RJ)  
10:00 ..... Vienna (RJ)  
10:00 ..... New York, Vienna (RJ)  
10:00 ..... Amsterdam (KLM)  
10:00 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
10:00 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
10:00 ..... Bagdad (RJ)  
10:00 ..... Muscat, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)

#### DEPARTURES

06:45 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
06:45 ..... Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)  
06:45 ..... Agaba (RJ)  
07:00 ..... Damascus, Paris (AF)  
07:00 ..... Cairo (MS)  
07:00 ..... Damascus, Athens, Geneva (SR)  
10:05 ..... Athens (RJ)  
11:00 ..... Amsterdam, New York (RJ)  
11:05 ..... Larnaca (RJ)  
11:30 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
11:45 ..... Frankfurt, Brussels (LH)  
12:00 ..... Paris, London (RJ)  
12:15 ..... Riyadh, Dhahran (Saudi)  
14:30 ..... Cairo (RJ)  
14:30 ..... Agaba (RJ)  
15:30 ..... Larnaca, Tripoli (LN)

### MONEY EXCHANGE

Local selling rates in Jls

Belgian franc ..... 69.2 / 69.6  
Dutch guilder ..... 125.3 / 126.1  
Egyptian guinea ..... 317.6 / 322.3  
French franc ..... 46.1 / 46.4  
Iraqi dinar ..... 362.3 / 363.3  
Italian lire (for 100) ..... 22.8 / 23  
Japanese yen (for 100) ..... 158.1 / 159  
Kuwaiti dirar ..... 126.9 / 126.6  
Lebanese ..... 60.6 / 61.3  
Omani riyal ..... 116.5 / 107.6  
Qatari riyal ..... 101.3 / 102  
Saudi riyal ..... 102.5 / 105.8  
Swedish crown ..... 47.4 / 47.7  
Swiss franc ..... 170 / 171  
Syrian lira ..... 54 / 54  
UAE dirham ..... 100.5 / 101.3  
U.K. sterling pound ..... 549.8 / 553.1  
U.S. dollar ..... 369 / 373  
W. German mark ..... 141.5 / 142.3

#### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fair and dry, with medium and high clouds, and winds will be easterly moderate. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

#### Low/high temperature in deg.C

Amman ..... 62/22  
Agaba ..... 9/26  
Deserts ..... 37/23  
Jordan Valley ..... 10/25  
Yesterday's high temperatures:  
Amman 21, Agaba 25. Humidity readings: Amman 25 per cent, Agaba 18 per cent.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

#### EMERGENCIES

Ambulance ..... 193, 75111  
Fire, fire, police ..... 199  
Blood bank ..... 75121  
Civil Defence rescue ..... 661111  
Fire headquarters ..... 22909-3  
Police rescue ..... 192, 21111, 37777  
Police headquarters ..... 39141  
Traffic police ..... 56394-2  
Electric Power Co. ..... 36381-2  
Municipal water service ..... 71125-8  
Queen Alia Int. Airport ..... (08) 53333

#### HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre ..... 81381-332  
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amman ..... 44224-4  
Akhil Maternity, J. Amman ..... 42441  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 42362  
Malha, J. Amman ..... 36140  
Palestine, Shamsiah ..... 66417-4  
Shamsiah Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 84545-5  
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein ..... 667158  
Al-Musharraf Hospital ..... 66722-24  
The Islamic, Abadi ..... 66529-2  
Al-Anhi, Abadi ..... 664104  
Italian, Al-Muhajreen ..... 77101-3  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 75111  
Army, Marka ..... 91611

#### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Mohammad Awmi Sa'adeh (Jabal)

Dr. Fakhri Sweileh ..... 3240  
Khalid pharmacy ..... 5056

#### ZARQA:

Dr. Mufeed Damra ..... 85522  
Falastine pharmacy ..... 1-1

#### GENERAL



## Arab union warns against dairy production shortfall

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Arab Union of Foodstuff Industries (AUI) expects demand for dairy products in the Arab World to reach 13,743 million tonnes by 1985, while its production of the products will be a mere 10 million tonnes.

It also proposes that April 26 be declared "Arab Dairy Day" in a bid to encourage the production and to improve the quality of dairy products.

A memo to this effect was received by the Amman Chamber of Industry from the AUI secretary-general, Faleh Jaber.

Despite Arab projects to increase dairy production, the Arab World will, by 1985, be producing

nearly 3.5 million tonnes less dairy products than its needs, and, if the present trend continues, the year 2,000 will witness a shortfall of 13.8 million tonnes of dairy products worth \$1,651 million, Dr. Jaber said.

The AUI proposed the holding of a seminar to tackle the dairy products issue in each Arab country to cover production, processing and marketing.

Such a seminar will focus Arab attention on ways of developing dairy production and will underline the importance of dairy processing as a way of contributing towards the achievement of Arab food security.

## Social security provisions outlined to expatriates

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Jordanian delegation from the Social Security Corporation (SSC), led by its Director Farid Obaid, met Jordanians employed by Qatari institutions to explain the SSC law and its attendant benefits, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, reported from Doha.

Mr. Obaid and his delegation are making the tour of Qatar and other Gulf states upon instructions from the government to offer SSC benefits to Jordanians working abroad and to invite them to contribute to the building of their country.

The expatriates are being invited to join the SSC scheme on a voluntary basis, Mr. Obaid told the meeting.

He said that this facility will be available once the SSC has arranged all the administrative and technical facilities for it and is being extended in the light of the success of SSC projects in Jordan.

Mr. Obaid explained the SSC laws and the accompanying benefits and also the proposed system for applying SSC regulations to Jordanian expatriates.

He also briefed his audience on the range of the SSC's investments in various Jordanian development projects particularly housing schemes.

The SSC is determined to offer Jordanian expatriates the chance of owning housing units in Jordan if they so wish provided they open savings account with the Social Development Bank in which the SSC owns most of the shares, Mr. Obaid said.

At the meeting, the Jordanian expatriates voiced their desire to be included with in the scope of the SSC law and to benefit from the housing scheme. They also expressed their appreciation to the Jordanian government for its response to their requests in this field.

The Jordanian delegation later met Qatari Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Ali Ansari to discuss co-operation between the two countries in labour-related matters.

On Thursday the delegation is due to leave Qatar for the United Arab Emirates and later for Kuwait.

## ILO talks team chosen

AMMAN (J.T.) — An evaluation of the performance of the Arab Labour Office and preparations for the next International Labour Organisation (ILO) conference will top the agenda of the 12th Arab Labour Conference meeting which will open in Baghdad on March 4, according to Labour Minister Tayseer Abdul Jaber.

The conference, he said, will discuss the budget and future programme for the Arab Labour Organisation during the coming year. The Ministry of Labour delegation to the meeting will comprise Dr. Abdul Jaber as head, labour office Director Saleh Al Tarawneh and industrial relations Director Saleh Fahmawi as well as Ali Issa from the Social Security Corporation as members.

Mr. Khalil Abu Khayma, chairman of Jordanian Trades Union Federation, and two other members will represent the Jordanian trade unions at the meeting.

The director of Amman Chamber of Industry, Ali Dajani and two other members will also be included in the Jordanian delegation. Amman Chamber of Commerce Chairman Amin Younis Al Hussein and another member represent the chamber at the meeting.

## Friends of Archaeology arrange busy schedule

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Archaeology fans will have their hands — and their time — full in March if they take in the many and varied activities offered by the Friends of Archaeology, including fieldtrips, lectures, exhibitions and courses.

The month starts with a lecture on the Petra excavations by director Tim Potts, at 7:00 p.m., March 3, at the British Council.

A lecture in French will be given by G. Tate at 6:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre, entitled "The Dead Cities of Northern Syria".

Dr. Nabil Khairy of the University of Jordan lectures on the 1981 season of excavations at Petra, at 7:00 p.m. on March 10, at the British Council.

Exhibitions during March include an overview of French contributions to Jordanian archaeology, at the University of Jordan library from March 5-12; and a photographic exhibition of archaeological projects in Jordan sponsored by the British Institute at Amman for Archaeology and History, from March 25-31 at the Amr Hotel. The British exhibition includes daily film showings.

**Fieldtrips**

The month's first fieldtrip is on March 16, to Arad Al Amir and Ras, two Hellenistic and Roman sites near Amman.

The second fieldtrip is a rather more adventurous three-day rambling outing to south Jordan, taking in the Wadi Hessa, Khirbet al Tamir, Dhat Ras, Lejjun, El Kaseh, the King's Highway, Wadi Mujib and Wadi Walla. Participants will have to bring their own sleeping equipment and cars. Dates are March 22-24.

Less hardy enthusiasts who nevertheless would like to see the Roman legendary fortress at Lejjun can make a one-day trip on



Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat (fifth from left) is briefed on the details of the Kurma oil field during his visit there Tuesday (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

## Obeidat views drilling at Kurma well

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat Tuesday inspected the drilling operations at the Kurma oil well in the Azraq region and was briefed on progress in the oil prospecting process by engineers and officials on site.

The prime minister also watched an experimental process by which crude oil was extracted from the well by using its own force and through pumping. He also watched the burning of crude oil and other chemical materials used in opening the porous rock in which the oil lies.

Presenting the briefing to the prime minister and other officials were: Engineer Kamal Jreinet, director of the energy department at the Natural Resources Authority (NRA); Khalid Al Shiyab, head of the NRA testing division, and Abdullah Al Rusan and

Mohammad Nabulsi from the (NRA) drilling department.

The prime minister praised the efforts of the specialists and engineers who are conducting the survey and drilling operations and who are testing the oil samples.

Accompanying the prime minister on his tour of the oil site were: Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Al Anani, National Planning Council President Omar Abdullah, NRA Director-General Yusuf Al Nimri and NRA Deputy Director Ahmad Dakhban.

An NRA spokesman said that the drilling at the exploratory well at Kurma ended after reaching a depth of 3,217 metres.

Samples extracted from the well were then tested to find out about the prospects for production, the spokesman said.

He continued saying that oil gushed out at a depth of 2,924 metres and preliminary tests have shown that the oil has a 28 degree density by American standards and contains one per cent sulphur.

At least 600 barrels of crude oil can be extracted daily from the Kurma well, the spokesman added.

Kurma was the seventh exploratory well drilled by NRA teams in the region since the start of 1981 within Jordan's oil prospecting programme.

The spokesman said that drilling has already started on an eighth well near H-4, while seismic shocks and surveys are continuing in a number of other areas.

He said that the NRA now conduct further tests to determine the production prospects of crude oil from the Kurma well.

## Agricultural engineers call for more investment

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Arab Agricultural Engineers Higher Council, which began its meeting Sunday, renewed its call to Arab governments to give agriculture the due attention it needs and to direct investment into that sector.

Participants also called on Arab countries to facilitate the role of agricultural engineers in order to help them to perform the functions and tasks entrusted to them in the best manner possible.

These sentiments came in a final communique issued by the council Monday at the conclusion of its three-days of meeting.

The communique also stressed the distinguished role of Arab economic integration, particularly in the field of providing food for the Arab people, and emphasised the pioneering role of the Arab agricultural engineers in this respect.

It also called on Arab agricultural engineers to continue to

develop their profession in order to serve agriculture in the Arab World and to achieve the targets of self-sufficiency and food security.

The participants also reviewed the current state of the Arab Nation and reaffirmed the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to establish a state on their national soil under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

It also voiced its total rejection of all attempts to liquidate the Palestinian cause.

The council then denounced the conspiracy against Lebanon and called for the withdrawal of all invading forces and the abrogation of all pacts which touch upon the sovereignty of Lebanon. It also called for support for the Lebanese national forces in their just struggle against Zionism and imperialism.

## Cabinet chooses new representatives

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet Wednesday appointed Walid Asfour as government representative on the Jordan Fertiliser Industry Company board of directors.

This position became vacant after the appointment of Dr. Hanna Odeh as minister of finance.

The cabinet also approved the appointment of Dr. Nooriddin Taqiyyiddin and Salem Al 'Ekoor as members representing the government on the board of directors of the Agricultural Marketing Organisation.

The cabinet later gave its consent to the organising of a mobile archaeological exhibition to travel to Belgium and the Netherlands.

The exhibition, entitled "Jordan's Civilisation through the Ages", is being organised by the Department of Antiquities and will display pottery found at different Jordanian archaeological sites.

## JEA signs electricity contracts worth JD 71.7m

By Afifah A. Kaloti  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) Wednesday signed four contracts valued at JD 71.7 million for the construction of the first stage of the Aqaba Thermal Power Station.

Chairman of the Board of Directors of JEA, Minister of Trade, Industry and Tourism Jawad Al Anani signed the agreements with representatives from four international companies which were granted the awards, two of which are Japanese, one Italian and one German.

The signing ceremony was attended by JEA Director-General Hisham Al Khatib and the authority's top officials as well as by ambassadors from countries of the firms involved. They were Mr. Naka Yama of Japan, Marquis Fabrizio Longhi of Italy and Dr. Hermann Munz of Germany.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, the JEA Public Relations Manager Marzouq Al Hadid said that the first stage of the project is expected to be completed in the second half of 1986 when two thermal units of a capacity of 130 MW each will start working.

Mr. Hadid explained that the generating capacity of the JEA power stations all over the Kingdom will reach 565.5 MW at the end of 1984 and, with the Aqaba new project, it will reach 825.5 MW by the end of 1986.

"Jordan's generating capacity will exceed the country's demand by the end of 1986 which will mean that we will always have enough capacity for new industrial projects."

iliaries with an award value of JD 20.5 million, he said.

As to the other Japanese company the Mitsubishi Corporation, Mr. Hadid said that they will be responsible for the civil works of the project with a value of JD 20.5 million.

In respect to the Brown Boveri Corporation of West Germany, he said it will do the work on the switch-gear yard and its auxiliaries which is valued at JD 2 million. Mr. Hadid pointed out that tenders for work on fuel tanks, sea surveying, soil checking and consultancy services had also been invited.

"The total cost of the awards amounted to JD 5.4 million and were granted to a Jordanian company, two American companies and a Korean firm, thus the total amount of the project being about JD 77 million."

Giving more details about the JD 5.4 million tenders, Mr. Hadid said that the fuel tanks tender was granted to the Korean company Sam Song whose bid was pitched at JD 1.3 million while the consultancy services were granted to America's Chas. T. Main International with a value of JD 3.8 million.

The sea surveying and soil checking were given to the American Ocean Survey Company and to the Jordanian Company of Jordan respectively both amounting to JD 341,000.

### Award details

On the distribution of work among the four companies and the value of each individual contract awarded, Mr. Hadid said that the Italian company Franco Tosi will do the work on the thermal turbines and the electrical generators, as well as its auxiliaries, and is priced at approximately JD 28.7 million.

The Mitsubishi Consortium of Japan will be responsible for work on the thermal boilers and its auxiliaries.

### Financing

Mr. Hadid pointed that, out of the total amount of money needed for the project, 18 per cent is being covered by the government and JEA, whereas the rest of the financing is being covered by loans from the Kuwaiti Development Fund, the Arab Fund, the Saudi Development Fund, the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, the World Bank.

## CAEU talks recommend co-ordinated tax system

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Financial and Monetary Committee of the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) ended a three-day meeting here Wednesday during which it discussed a number of issues and topics related to the co-ordination of Arab tax legislation.

Speaking after the closing session, CAEU Assistant Secretary-General Mohammad Al Sharif said that the committee had issued recommendations calling on Arab countries to co-ordinate their currency exchange rates, to extend the use of the Arab currency of account (Arab Dinar) and to lay the ground work for Arab monetary integration.

The committee also called on Arab states to draw up a mechanism by which to settle inter-Arab balance of trade problems and to find ways of encouraging the investment of Arab funds in different Arab countries.

It also urged Arab financial ins-

the West German Foreign Aid Agency, the British and Italian governments and from commercial loans arranged by the companies implementing the project.

Asked why JEA chose Aqaba for the project and not any other area, Mr. Hadid said that it was due to geographical reasons. A sea water cooled thermal power station increases the efficiency while lowering the production cost of such a project for it does not consume so much fuel, saving 60 grammes of fuel for each KW, he said. Another aim for choosing Aqaba, he added, is because the project, due to its location near a port, has ease of access to fuel supplies.

Mr. Hadid added that the aim of the project in Aqaba is to facilitate the establishment of more industrial projects in the south and thus contribute to the development of social and economic activities in the area.

### Transmission line award

The JEA will Thursday sign a contract for the Aqaba-Amman 400 KV overhead transmission line project.

The project, which comprises four contracts, aims to transfer electrical power from the substation just to the south of Amman.

The contract, which is to be signed Thursday, was granted to a British company, Balfour Beatty, to supply and erection metal towers. It is valued at JD 10 million, Mr. Hadid said.

The agreement will be signed by Dr. Anani along with representatives from the company and will be attended by British ambassador Alan Urwick, he said.

Mr. Hadid added that the other three contracts related to the project were given to Austrian, Japanese and British contractors.

The work for the conductors and earthing wires, valued at JD 5 million, was granted to Ranshofen-Berndorf of Austria. The insulators contract went to C. Itoh and Co. Ltd. of Japan at a value of JD 1.9 million, while the consulting services were granted to Freese, Cardew and Rider of Britain valued at JD 450,000, Mr. Hadid said in conclusion.

## Fertiliser plant to be established

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Valley Farmers Association is to establish a project to mix fertilisers in the Arda region of the central Ghor.

The project is costing JD 10,000 and has a productive potential of 20 tons per hour on the basis of one working session that can, when necessary, be doubled by operating a dual production line.

The project will also reduce the cost per ton of fertilisers by \$97.

## THE INTERNATIONAL CLUB OF DIPLOMATS

will hold a Buffet Luncheon at The Shepherd Hotel on Wednesday February 29.

All members of the club, and new diplomats and their spouses are welcome. There will be a cash bar from 1:30 p.m. and the buffet will be served free of charge from 2 p.m.

### CAR FOR SALE

Opel Ascona 1.91 yellow, four-doors, 78,000 km good condition, on view at car park of Intercontinental Hotel today.

Lufthansa German Airlines - Phone: 41305

### A MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION

A special thank you to All who has found our dog Matti also to the Police Dog Training Centre in Juweida for their help. Also special thanks to everyone who has helped us to locate her.

Thanking you all

The owners

### DELUXE FURNISHED HOUSE FOR RENT

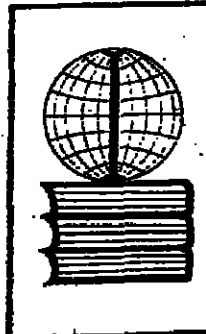
Nicely decorated and furnished house consisting of three bedrooms, two bathrooms, reception, living room and dining room, with separate sitting room and large fully-equipped kitchen.

Approx. area 300 sq. metres with garden, telephone, central heating and wall-to-wall carpeting.

Location: Jabal Amman - 2nd Circle.

Please contact tel. 42935 between 9.00-12.00 and 15.00-18.00.

## INTERBOOK



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# 'The thread that leads to mutual recognition'

Following is the full text of a statement delivered at a Middle East symposium at Harvard University last month by Mr. Yossi Sarid, a member of the Israeli parliament from the Labour Party.

WE ARE five members of the Knesset from Israel, who have accepted the invitation to come here to discuss the future of relations between Israelis and Palestinians — a future on which our personal and national fate so clearly depends.

We have come here because we should like to believe that this get-together is based on the realisation that what is known as "the Palestinian problem" is not merely a problem of the Palestinians, but is a problem of the Israelis as well. Without a solution to this problem, none of the sides involved in this bitter and bloody historical conflict will enjoy peace and security.

We should also like to believe that this get-together is amongst people who understand that the struggle between the two nations cannot be resolved by means of military force. Neither side will ever be sufficiently strong to win a victory which will enable it to drag the other — defeated and submissive — to the table, in order to unilaterally dictate the conditions of a solution to it. National struggles such as this one cannot be resolved militarily — only politically. My colleagues and myself are here to hold a discussion because we believe that all the participants in this symposium share the view that Israelis and Palestinians will have to live with each other, side by side and not in place of, or at the expense of each other.

It seems to me that amongst the Israelis taking part here today, there are no fundamental differences of opinion concerning the future of relations between Israelis and Palestinians, even though, undoubtedly, there are variants of this approach amongst ourselves. What I say here represents a general consensus which is above the existing variants.

The Israeli occupation of the West Bank has lasted now for over 16 years. We, the moderate forces in Israel, have been trying all these years to explain to our compatriots that this occupation is extremely dangerous to Israel, and is liable to bring about our total corruption.

Following the 1967 military victory, many Israelis held a sincere but naive belief that Israel could maintain an "enlightened occupation". An enlightened occupation is, of course, impossible. The occupied party, which refuses to reconcile itself to the situation, gradually starts expressing this lack of reconciliation through manifestations of resistance, of insurrection and revolt. The occupier, on the other hand, can see no alternative to continuing its rule by means of suppression. However, these means are incapable, of course, of uprooting the manifestations of resistance and

insurrection. On the contrary, the means of repression, which become progressively more harsh as the resistance intensifies, only further complicate the situation, and increase its dangers. Thus, the two sides — both the occupier and the occupied — enter a vicious circle, a "spiral of terror" spinning at an ever increasing speed. The more urgent and critical the need to break this circle becomes, so the real chances for doing so weaken. The speed at which the spiral of horror spins eventually gets completely out of control, threatening both sides with total injury.

There is no trace of the enlightened occupation, irrespective of what the original intentions and wishes were. One does not have to be a determinist to grasp that an occupation has its own rules, an inner law, and that it develops its own predetermined dynamics. Even the Israelis were unable to register a patent for some other sort of occupation, which is essentially different from others.

An additional naive belief has been held by many Israelis in recent years. When it became apparent that an enlightened occupation would be impossible to maintain for any length of time, they deluded themselves that the interior norms which are applied to the West Bank would not spill over into Israel proper, within the "green line" borders. They continued to hope that we would manage to maintain a reality of two planets — one planet: the West Bank, the second planet: "little Israel" — without the one touching the other and affecting it. This belief, as well, had no basis in reality. If we, the Israelis, are present both here and there, then what happens there must happen here as well. Whatever takes place and emerges in the West Bank will gradually take place and emerge in Israel proper as well. If the norms which are applied to the West Bank are corrupt, then those we apply to ourselves will become corrupted as well. It is only a matter of time.

If human life is no longer a supreme value in one location, there is no reason to believe that it will continue to be a supreme value elsewhere. The process of depreciation in the value of human life will not stop at the green line. Israel has always been justly proud of the fact that the concern for human life and man's fate have stood at the top of its scale of values and norms. It is very doubtful whether Israel can continue to be so proud.

We, who are present here, are not ashamed of our concern for the Palestinian human being and his fate. On the contrary, for us this concern is a duty of honour as human beings. However, when we show our concern for the Palestinian human being, we are, in fact, showing our concern for the Israeli human being, the Jew, lest he should lose his human form and moral image. It is no coincidence that all the true democracies in the

world sooner or later understood that it is impossible to maintain simultaneously both democratic rule and a rule of occupation, whether in a large or small territory, no matter how near or distant. Democratic regimes have been obliged to decide: To either give up democracy or the occupation. This is what we demand of our own state as well: To give up the occupation so that, heaven forbid, we shall not lose our precious, irreplaceable democracy.

There is a third belief which has been held by many Israelis in recent years — an additional belief which has now been shattered. Israeli public opinion allowed itself to be persuaded that the Palestinian problem could be resolved with "a zip and a zing". We were convinced that a war in Lebanon could uproot the whole Palestinian national struggle, bring the Palestinian population in the West Bank down to its knees, and enable Menachem Begin, Ariel Sharon and Raphael Eitan to annex the West Bank to Israel. All the parties involved in the Lebanese war paid a heavy and dear price — but it was a price paid in vain. Not only was the Palestinian problem not resolved, but its entire scope, depth and urgency were once again revealed.

If the Israeli government had intended to beat the "terror" once and for all, so that it would never rise again, then this goal was neither attained, nor could it have been attained. Not only have the manifestations of terror failed to decline, as a result of the Lebanese war, but they have, unfortunately, risen. They are becoming increasingly more intensive and insane. If someone in Israel wishes to take comfort in the fact that today's terror is not only Palestinian but Shi'ite as well, I doubt whether he will find anyone to share this "comfort".

If the Israeli government intended to block the political option of the PLO by means of the Lebanese war, it has, of course, failed in this intention as well. Should the PLO only so wish, it has the option of taking the political course, which I certainly hope that it does, for the political course is the only one which can lead to a just solution of the Palestinian problem and to co-existence in peace and security. I have never managed to figure out what it was that scared the Likud government more — the PLO's military option, or its political option. One way or another, following the Lebanese war, both these options are still open and available.

It seems as though the Lebanese war has split the PLO in two, along lines which are determined by attitudes towards the two aforementioned options. The war gave birth to one extremist PLO, which declares unequivocally that it believes in the course of armed struggle, and which it insists on pursuing. The war also gave birth to a second, more moderate PLO, which appears at the moment to be studying the possibility of join-

ing the region's political process, as the only means of escaping the dangerous dead-end.

The Lebanese war has, undoubtedly, been a tragedy. It enters the long list of tragedies which have visited our region — a region which has experienced so much suffering and pain. Both sides are responsible for bringing these tragedies upon themselves, and both have paid the price.

The Palestinian side has also continuously made a fatal error by refusing to accept Israel's actual existence and recognise it as a *fait accompli*. Later on, when the first signs of accommodation are recognition began to appear, the PLO made a further mistake when it refused to join the political process in any way. Only recently it seemed as though Yasser Arafat had found, together with King Hussein, a formula which would enable the Kingdom of Jordan and the PLO to embark on a joint political move, based on the Reagan initiative and the Fez plan. But very soon it became apparent that Arafat was unable to deliver the goods.

The Middle East plunged back into the same old boggy and malignant swamp. The extremists on both sides have once again caught the centre of the stage, pushing the moderates aside, and playing into each other's hands. The extremists of the region have united. They have united in order to take away from us, the moderates, the hope for reconciliation.

What, now, is the role to be played by the moderates in both camps? What is the duty placed on us? First of all, we must deliver the two nations — each of us his own nation — from the bitter and sterile debate concerning historical wrongs and original sins. If the Palestinians will continue to bewail the wrong done to them by Zionism — by our movement of liberation — and if we shall continue to bewail the "basic" Arab desire to throw us into the sea, no progress will be made.

We, the moderates, must deliver the two nations from the vicious circle of *just claims*. Each side has serious and just claims, by means of which it wishes to place the full responsibility and all the fault on the shoulders of the other. When each side has serious claims and just demands, a tragedy is certain to befall both. It is our duty to tell our peoples: True, our claims are just, but the other side has such claims as well, and we must understand them. The Israeli side argues, and just, that it is unwilling to negotiate with the PLO, because the PLO has never officially abandoned its declared intention of wiping Israel off the surface of the earth. The Palestinian side argues, and form its own point of view with justice, that contrary to the Israelis, it has no state, no army, and that it has not realised its right of self-determination. Its main weapon is thus non-recognition of Israel. If it will give this up as well, then it will only further weaken its inferior position.

Thus, when just claims face just claims, the two sides become involved in the sterile, endless debate: Who ought to take the first step, who will be first to recognise the other? Many long years have been lost over this pointless argument. Now, the time has come to put an end to it.

In order to put an end to it, once and for all, one must strive towards the critical, longed for point — the Archimedean point of the Middle East conflict, with the Palestinian problem at its core. If we shall reach that point, then we shall have a lever by means of which we shall be able to raise the Palestinian problem onto a new plain of discussions, and negotiations towards a real resolution of the problem. The point is — *mutual and simultaneous recognition of the right of self-determination of the two nations*. The Jewish people, settled in Zion, will recognise the right of the Palestinian Arab people to self-determination, and the Palestinian Arab people on its part will recognise the right of the Jewish people to self-determination in its homeland. Only mutual and simultaneous recognition can put a stop to the endless debate as to whose right is superior, and who should recognise whom first.

Let me use this platform in order to approach all the men of good will, and all those who seek peace in the Middle East, wherever they may be. Anyone who is interested in playing a constructive role in our battered region has, at present, only one correct and useful thing to do: To lead the two sides towards the point of *mutual recognition*. There is no point and no advantage in placing pressure on one of the sides only — on either Israel or on the Palestinians. Such pressure will bear no fruit, and might even act as a boomerang. The recognition which we all are striving for must be explicit and authoritative, not evasive or conditional.

This first, basic principle of mutual recognition must be joined by a second principle which is directly connected with the question of "who": *with whom* will Israel have to carry on negotiations for the resolution of the Palestinian problem and for a stable, permanent peace in our region? The answer now is simple and clear, emanating from the first principle: Israel should talk peace with anyone who adopts this first principle of mutual recognition. Whoever recognises Israel's right to exist as a sovereign, secure state in the Middle East, should be considered by it a legitimate and acceptable partner at the negotiating table. This is the second principle.

There is a third principle, which relates to the final form in which the Palestinian Arab nation will realise its right to self-determination. As is well known, there are many and varied views concerning the preferred and desired form. There are many in Israel, in the Arab World and elsewhere, who believe that a solution which does not take into account the close links and the strong ties between the West Bank and the East Bank — the Kingdom of Jordan — is artificial, arbitrary and unrealistic. These believe that it would be a fatal mistake if we disregard these links and ties, and support a solution which divides sovereignties along the Jordan River, as between its Eastern and Western Banks. One way or another, no matter how legitimate the various views may be, the final decision must be taken when the time comes — by the Palestinian Arab nation itself. This is the third principle. The

Palestinian Arab nation is the one which will decide in which form it would like to realise its national right of self-determination.

The programmatic basis for negotiations for peace in the Middle East is now within reach. If we shall only manage to stabilise it. Two political programmes are presently at hand, and if the necessary alterations are introduced into them it is they which will constitute the basis for negotiations. I am referring to the Reagan plan and the Fez plan, which must in future merge with each other. The Reagan plan is faulty because it does not relate directly to the Palestinian Arab nation and its national problem.

The Fez plan is faulty because it does not relate directly and explicitly to the state of Israel as a sovereign state which has to be recognised. We must invest great efforts and raise our contribution so that what is lacking in each of the programmes will be made up, and then, only then, will it be possible to state that we have the edge of a thread for negotiations with reasonable chances for success.

In order to prepare the ground and the hearts towards negotiations, two additional prior and indispensable steps must be taken. One step must be taken by Israel: negotiations will not open, and if they will open are bound to fail, unless Israel agrees to stop completely the negative, harmful process of settlement in the occupied territories. As long as Israel is unwilling to stop the settlement, any talk of progress towards negotiations is empty talk. It is service and no more. A second step must be taken by the PLO — at least that PLO which puts on airs of being moderate and rational. Again, negotiations will not open, and if they will open are bound to fail, if the PLO will not agree to stop all acts of terror. Responsibility for the terrible attack on the bus in Jerusalem, which the PLO took upon itself only a few weeks ago, leads even those who are most moderate amongst us to despair. We despise this terror, and will never be able to reconcile ourselves to it. Every such blow fatally sabotages the chances of a solution, and removes negotiations beyond the dark mountains. We are here because we believe that the moderate people on both sides must help each other. The problem now is not how negotiations will be concluded. The main problem now is how negotiations will commence. The extremists in both camps are doing everything in their power to prevent us from finding the edge of the thread which will lead us to recognition, reconciliation and a solution. The moderates in both camps must do everything in their power in order to enable each other to uncover the edge of the thread, to grab hold of it, and never let go of it. We have come here with a profound hope that you will give us the other edge of this thread. Each of us will return from here to his place in order to continue the contest for public opinion. This is a most difficult struggle. One needs much force and courage in order to persevere in it. Without your help, and without ours, there is no hope of changing public opinion, of bequeathing our views to it, of being victorious in the struggle. With your help, and with ours, we believe wholeheartedly that it is possible to bring about a change in public opinion, that it is possible to bequeath our principles to it. It is possible to win this crucial struggle.

## Solidarity is the answer

IT has never been fair for the United States and others to ask Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) alone to give a new life to the moribund peace process in the Middle East, when Washington itself did not seem to be prepared to exert enough effort to wrestle even one concession from Israel on the questions of Lebanon or the West Bank. It has also been wrong to assume that Jordanians and Palestinians would want to be part of a process that is likely to complicate, rather than simplify, future steps towards achieving a comprehensive Middle East settlement.

It is not a secret that Jordan is willing, and has indicated on a number of occasions its willingness to negotiate peace, and even take a risk for it, provided that the PLO, as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, agreed there was a fair chance that something might be accomplished through taking such a step. If and when the PLO said "yes," Jordan would still be taking the big risk of struggling in a diplomatic quagmire with the Israelis; but, at least, Palestinians and Arabs would have understood why it all had to happen this way. If, however, the PLO did not believe that progress was possible under the given circumstances, and that the organisation did not want to be a party to a doomed process, Jordan could only decide to play it safe, and understandably so.

Playing it safe cannot be the immediate answer to the Palestine problem, and all Arabs should be aware of this fact. Perhaps this explains why the Palestinians have often stressed diplomatic moves for achieving a political settlement but seem to have found that reaching a compromise among the various Palestinian groups was indeed more important than risking a split over one dramatic move that might have even promised of solving the Palestinian problem overnight.

Still, the time factor may or may not work in the interests of the Arab Nation, but time definitely is not totally ours; and therefore we cannot afford to ignore today's realities as they are. In this context, our best option remains that of strong Jordanian-Palestinian solidarity, within a unified Arab position, to confront, together, the issue of peace or war.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Rai: Stop the inhuman war

THE WORLD watches while thousands of people are killed everyday in the Iran-Iraq war and on both sides of the borders. The war continues with ferocity and intensity and at an unprecedented level. In the past weeks the Iran-Iraq war has assumed the level of total annihilation and savagery, and is threatening to engulf the whole region.

The world powers stand by and watch, and many of them are selling arms to the two sides to make profit and gather wealth at the expense of the soldiers and civilians who fall in the battle and in the towns and villages. Moreover, Arab countries stand by and watch the massacre and the savage fighting without raising a finger to stop it. Thousands of people are killed, wounded and maimed as neighbouring nations watch and occasionally issue statements. Is this the true belonging to the Arab nation, and is this an implementation of the joint Arab Defence Treaty?

We can see that the Iraqis are capable of defending their land and are achieving successes over their enemies, but we also know that the war must stop because it is a war of annihilation and one that is fuelled by war mongers who are inhuman, and their actions should be denounced as contemptible and criminal.

### Al Dustour: Harmful Congress attitude

AFTER ITS involvement in the Lebanese crisis and due to its failing policies in the region the American administration has started to hint and imply that it is determined to seek a settlement to the Middle East issue by regarding the Palestine problem as the central point and the crux of the conflict. But this attempt is bound to fail because certain forces in the U.S. Congress have begun a campaign to thwart any American policy not favouring Israel in any deal to come.

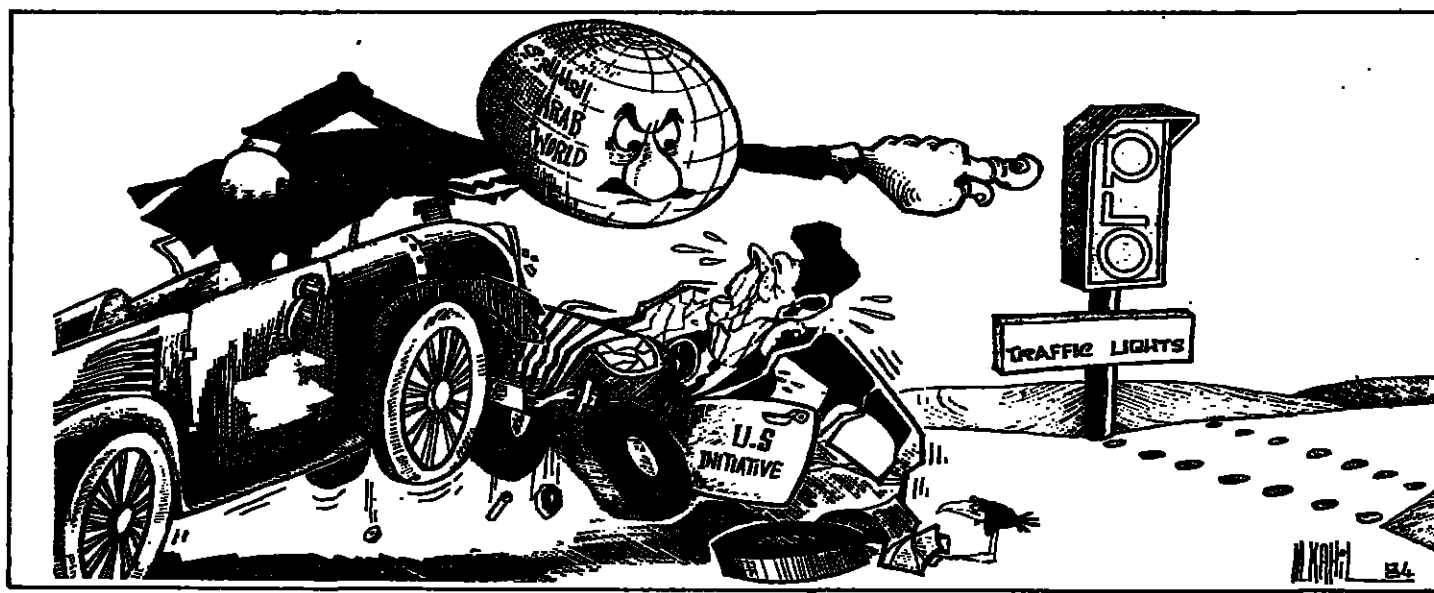
Latest reports from Washington indicate that Congress committees have submitted motions calling for the transfer of the U.S. embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, banning any sort of contact with the PLO, and increasing military and financial aid to Israel. It is regrettable indeed to see the Congress taking this line because its committees are actually contributing towards an escalation of tension and increasing the danger of wars in our region. These moves realise that the danger they are creating will definitely harm American interests as well as many others, and that Israel cannot provide the necessary protection for such interests once the spark of war has flashed in this region.

### Sawt Al Shaab: Responsible movement

JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN talks continued Wednesday for the third day in a brotherly atmosphere, which carries hope for the people of the occupied Arab lands and the Arab Nation. The resumption of the dialogue was in a responsible manner and in a spirit characterised by optimism and co-operation for the sake of serving higher Arab interests and for thwarting Zionist expansionist designs. Bolstering mutual understanding and finding a common ground for future action constitute the first step towards reviving an Arab campaign for solving the Middle East issue.

The two sides are now bent on finding means to safeguard the rights of the Palestinians in their homeland and for stopping Israel's drive to evict the Arab people from their territories.

His Majesty King Hussein's meeting with PLO chief Yasser Arafat is based on firm and strong convictions and a stable Jordanian-Palestinian relationship backed by social and historical links that moulded the two peoples together. The meeting is an expression of the two people's wishes and their aspirations.



## Union rights at security agencies vary

By John Rogers  
Reuter

LONDON — A British government ban on trade union membership at an electronic spy centre has sparked a major row over whether union rights compromise security.

But the issue appears to have few parallels elsewhere. A Reuter survey indicates that while employees of security establishments in several countries have the right to join unions, few have the right to strike.

Britain's labour movement had called a day of protest Tuesday, against a government order to staff at its main electronic surveillance centre at Cheltenham, southwest England, and several outstations to renounce their union membership by today or seek transfer to other government jobs.

The government says future strikes might disrupt the work of the centre, known as the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ), in eavesdropping on Soviet bloc radio traffic.

Reuter correspondents report a patchwork of rules governing union membership at security

agencies in other countries. Some allow union membership but ban strikes. Others have banned trade unions from security establishments. In several countries, staff are military personnel with no union rights.

In India, intelligence staff are trying to get round a ban on unions operating unofficially through staff groups.

Correspondents report: Washington — all levels of staff at the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and other intelligence services are banned from union membership under a 1979 executive order which formalised a previously tacit policy.

Ottawa — Canada's security and intelligence operations are handled by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, which has no trade unions. Internal grievances are aired at periodic meetings between elected staff representatives and the top brass.

New Delhi — The Indian government bans trade unions in its intelligence establishments. But staff at the domestic agency, the Intelligence Bureau, and the research and analysis wing, which deals with external intelligence, have formed employees' associations in defiance of the ban.

After a 1979 strike in the research and analysis wing, the government dismissed 10 association leaders and suspended 15.

The supreme court is hearing a petition by the association, which has accused the government of using "repressive measures" to break it, for re-instatement and compensation.

Bonn — Employees of West Germany's three intelligence services have the right to join trade unions, but do not have the right to strike.

"The idea of established civil servants striking is quite foreign here and the thought of security service personnel doing so has been seen as rather a British quirk — a trait of the island disease," a foreign diplomat commented.

Sydney — Australia places no bar on civilian union membership at sensitive defence establishments and sees no threat to its security as a result. "Union membership is almost encouraged because wage claims can be handled more easily," one defence source said.

Rome — Civilians working at Italian security establishments

have the right to join unions. But most staff are military personnel who are not permitted union membership.

The civilian right to union membership is firmly entrenched in law, and one union official said: "What happened at Cheltenham could not happen here. It would be against the constitution."

Paris — Staff at French electronic eavesdropping centres comparable to Cheltenham are in the armed forces and barred from union membership.

Brussels — Military staff at NATO headquarters in Brussels and the alliance's military headquarters in Mons have no union rights, but civilians are grouped in staff associations.

They have the right to strike, which Brussels staff exercised for the first time last June during a ministerial meeting. But the secretary-general used his powers to requisition more than 300 officials, and the headquarters was not closed down.

NATO officials are concerned about publicity the Cheltenham dispute has attracted. "The less public attention places like GCHQ get, the happier we are," one official said.

## LETTERS

### Misleading linkage

To the Editor:

I REFER to the article in the Jordan Times of Tuesday, February 14, 1984, page 3, "Smart police work solves thefts". In this article you mention the thieves of "the first band" have been identified as Mohammad A.K.H. (22), and Ahmad Sh. (21), and that "both thieves were students at the Schneller-School etc."

Now I have to mention that both young men left Schneller-School 14 and 10 years ago respectively, according to our information and to our documents, and that both boys were in Schneller-School for three and six years respectively.

So, can we be responsible for them as you seem to impute to our institution? And — how do you feel we can be responsible for them at all?

It seems very unfair to the staff of Schneller-School that you are mentioning it in connection with those thieves, since everybody who would read this article might feel that Schneller-School is producing thieves, and that both left Schneller-School recently only. We do not understand why you are mentioning our school which is highly reputed in our country, and which has been giving charitable services to hundreds of poor and homeless children for more than 120 years in our region. So we feel that this might be a kind of a hidden attack against our work, and we cannot defend ourselves towards the public. You can conclude this, too, from the fact that you do not mention from which school or institution the thieves of the second gang do come.

After all, we feel deeply concerned about this news linked to our well-known institution. I think that you can feel with us, and I would like to make use of this occasion and invite you and your staff to visit Schneller-School in the near future to see what we are doing for our country and our society. I am sure we are not producing thieves or other kinds of criminals.

Wolfgang Hinker  
Director  
Theodor-Schneller-School,  
Amman.



# Wines are also subject to character analysis

By Boris Weintraub

WASHINGTON — It is not entirely correct to say that Harro J. de Blij looks at a bottle of fine wine and thinks only of geography. Not entirely correct, but pretty close.

Show de Blij, a professor of geography at the University of Miami, a bottle of a 1975 Bordeaux from the commune of St. Estephe, and he will talk about the composition of the soil where its grapes were grown, the climate, the amount of heat and sunlight: physical geography.

He will talk about the laws governing the labeling of the wine, and how the appellation system was developed: political geography.

And he will talk about the long-standing traditions of the area's growers and wine makers, the specialized knowledge that goes back centuries, the relationship between grape and region: cultural geography.

"Geography is so marvelously reliable to wine," says de Blij who has just published a book called "Wine: A Geographic Appreciation." "It's climate, it's soil, it's culture, it's tradition, it's history. In a sense, you could say that a bottle of wine is a summary of a region."

Only after such discourse to a lunch companion will he taste the wine. It's not that de Blij doesn't like wine for itself. Far from it.

"A great bottle of wine is a noble creation, a work of art as well as science, a triumph of talent and initiative, a progeny of natural environment and cultural tradition," he writes in the book's preface. "As complex as a Monet landscape and as intricate as a Bach partita, such a wine is to senses of smell and taste what painting is to the eye and music to the ear... It is an endless adventure of boundless joy, enlivened by discoveries of unexpected treasures."

But de Blij maintains that a full understanding of the geography of wine enhances one's enjoyment. He presses this principle upon his students in his wine geography course, one of about 20 offered in American colleges and universities.

## Global wine research

His research has taken him to vineyards around the world: to Japan, New Zealand, the Mediterranean, Argentina, to France and Germany, of course, and to California and to many other American states, which led to the

discovery that grapes suitable for wine are grown in every state but Alaska.

Just as there is no single greatest wine, there is no single best way to produce it. Instead, de Blij says, great wines depend on a number of geographical factors. Take, for example, Bordeaux: Why are its wines so special?

"To a very considerable extent, it's history," de Blij says. "The length of time that generation after generation has been making wine, avoiding the pitfalls and capitalising on the advantages."

"The vine has been standing there for a long time, and it has capitalised on the particular environment that prevails there: its root systems may now be 16 or 18 feet more down into the soil, and cloned over and over until the most delicate adjustment with the local environmental ecology has been achieved."

"Then there is a cultural tradition that has produced experts, winemakers who can almost sense the readiness of grapes in the vineyard, feel the readiness of wine in the barrel, time the period of fermentation. There are certain areas where certain families have made wine and have taught the making of wine almost since civilisation began."

De Blij has found that the way vineyards are laid out says something about the character of the growers. He cautions against going too far in such comparisons, but writes in his book about the exactness and regimentation of German vineyards, the widely spaced, machine-harvested vines of central California, the undisciplined Italian vineyards where vines spill out everywhere.

"In Malta," he recalls, "the vines were simply crawling along the ground. I asked the winemaker, for whom the growers were contractors, why he didn't suggest that they hang the vines from a trellis. He said, 'What happens if we set up trellises and we get one of our familiar Mediterranean winds and everything gets blown over? I leave them alone.'"

## Resistant to change

Grape growers and winemakers, de Blij has found, are conservative people who carry their traditional ways of doing things with them wherever they go. He cites a group of Germans who moved to Australia's Barossa Valley and planted grapes suitable only for distilling into brandy.

"The winemakers went to them and asked them to plant grapes for table wines," he says. "And the growers wouldn't do it. The reason is that they were comfortable with the way the vines they were familiar with grew and looked."

"What that says is that tradition dies hard, even when economic incentive seems to lie right before the growers."

De Blij has noted that grapes are grown and wine produced in many unexpected places, from Zimbabwe to Korea, from the Soviet Union to Uruguay. The rise in American production can be attributed to many factors, from increased consumption by Americans who have travelled abroad and seen wine-drinking as routine, to the increasing maturity and influence of the baby-boom generation that was drinking fruit wines a decade ago, to the development of hybrid grape vines designed to withstand difficult climates.

He sips his wine and, perhaps, ponders new field work. — National Geographic feature.

## Lebanese winemaker excels despite conflict

By Charlotte Burnaby-Atkins

LONDON — Serge Hochar's fine wines have managed to flourish in the midst of war and chaos in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

The 44-year-old Lebanese winemaker admits he has needed a little luck. But Britain's top wine magazine says what he has achieved is nevertheless extraordinary — for he has managed to produce internationally noted wines in these circumstances.

Mr. Hochar, whose Chateau Musar wines are sold in Britain, the Netherlands, the United States, Canada, Australia, Hong Kong and Singapore, was presented recently with Decanter magazine's man of the year award for services to wine.

He told Reuters in an interview here that by a miracle his vineyards — in the valley southeast of Beirut on the edge of Israeli-controlled southern Lebanon and just south of Syrian forces — had been so far untouched by the fighting in Lebanon although an Israeli tank did rumble across one corner.

But Mr. Hochar has to overcome problems not faced by winemakers in France and Italy to market fine wines in Lebanon's often chaotic and dangerous environment.

"To produce wine at all in the circumstances would be remarkable but to produce excellent wine is extraordinary," said Colin Parnell, editor-in-chief of Decanter, a magazine with an international circulation.

Mr. Hochar at one point gave up hope of a 1983 harvest because of fighting in the nearby Shouf Mountains between Israeli troops, Maronite Christians and Druze militia.

But now he thinks his 1983 wines may be his best vintage ever.

He has described the 1983 wine as having "a lot of power, very well balanced, with depth, deep colouring, practically black — definitely worth of trouble."

Tony Lord, editor of Decanter, said Mr. Hochar's wines are "very much in the style and class of a Fine Claret, particularly when around eight to 10 years old, but they also have a very individualistic streak."

"There is probably not another wine quite like it — certainly a wine for red meats, very much a big wine."

Mr. Hochar said he had luck last year when a bad winter followed by a mild summer delayed ripening of the grapes until fighting around the vineyards ceased.

When fighting ended the Israelis had established themselves in the immediate area.

Once the grapes were picked the problem was to transport them to his winery in the village of Ghazir, overlooking the port of Jounieh north of Beirut.

The roads in South Lebanon were blocked for five months and the only way to the winery was by lorry from the Bekaa Valley slopes, over the Shouf Mountains, down to the coast and up to the village. The coastal highway was under constant bombardment but the lorry escaped with only a burst tyre.

Mr. Hochar exports thousands of cases of Chateau Musar wines annually although the exact quantity varies according to the difficulties he encounters.

The high cost of producing wine under such circumstances is a major worry and in order to keep the price stable Mr. Hochar is currently taking losses. His wines have not gone up in price for two years, retailing in Britain at around four sterling a bottle.

Randa Habib's Corner

## Electoral traffic jam

THE ELECTORAL campaign has started beautifully. Posters, signs, and the city is clad in the colours of the candidates. With their photos blossom their promises and their electoral programmes. On all the big avenues the candidates advertise in big letters what they intend to do if they are elected, and since they are 41 competing for one seat for Amman the competition is very tight and this is what makes the advertisements more attractive. Each for the best place to attract the greatest attention.

The problem is when you try like I did the other day to read what the signs say while driving: You risk to bump into the car ahead of you or into a pole. As to the signs put on bends here, it is desperate because you can climb on the circle unless you park your car and sacrifice a few minutes to meditate on the "words" of a candidate.

More accidents can result out of those campaigns because of cars covered with posters advertising the big smile of a candidate. I wonder how a driver should manage to see them and drive carefully in the same time.

But let us not complain. After all it is not everyday that we have parliamentary elections. So let us make the most of it.

## Junk man regains role in inflation-hit India

By Ajoy Sen  
Reuter

NEW DELHI — As food prices soar again in India and inflation looks set to reach double figures for the first time in two years, the junk man is back in demand.

He searches city dumps for an empty can or a pair of worn rubber slippers and pays for household rubbish that will soon find its way back into use.

Wearing a battered cap and a cloth tied around his waist like a sarong, he announces his visit to residential areas with a short, loud yell of "kabadiwalla" (junk collector).

Cash-short housewives pick through heaps of garbage for tins for the junk man — empty beer bottles, old newspapers, saris and chipped crockery.

The day's pickings find their way through a chain of middlemen to a booming recycling industry which makes kitchen knives, toys, bangles and other consumer goods from discarded metal, plastic, glass and rubber.

The small and often home-based reprocessing units are scattered along dark narrow streets and alleys of Indian cities.

Articles made from junk look crude, but their low prices draws large crowds at pavement stalls.

The story of 43-year-old junk collector Uttam Singh is not one of rags to riches. But his hunt through refuse supports a family of five and pays the \$30 monthly rent for a one-room apartment in a Delhi slum.

His income fluctuates, he says, according to the economics of supply and demand.

So when people drink more

beer in hot months, breweries pay higher rates for empty cans and bottles. Prices of old newspapers rise in the summer because they are used for wrapping when mangoes and bananas are in season.

Old furniture and watches, car accessories and used clothes reappear in the city's markets after mending and refurbishing.

A large secondhand motor parts market does brisk business in the shadow of Delhi's historic red sandstone Jama Masjid Mosque.

An owner of a 1950 model Vauxhall can buy a spare carburettor in these markets, though normally it would be difficult to obtain from an authorised shop.

Bombay's crowded Grant Road specialises in buying and selling plastic scraps, which are trucked to factories in the city's north-western industrial suburbs in Goregaon and Malad.

There they are melted, treated with chemicals and colour and reappear as a new bucket, lunchbox or water bottle.

In thousands of homes in Calcutta, Madras and Delhi, entire families gather to cut, fold and paste glossy pages of magazines and newspapers and turn them into paper bags.

Factories make marmalade from the peeled orange skins of Delhi's fruit juice vendors and small backyard refineries buy used engine oil from garages for reprocessing into cheap "new" oil.

Police and health authorities often crack down on people selling adulterated medicines and cosmetics made to look like the genuine product.

But the junk trade and recycling units survive, springing up afresh — often almost overnight — in another location.



Sampling his own wines, Chris Catherman, winemaker at the St. Julian Winery in Paw Paw, Mich., USA, checks on the colour of some red wine in the winery's aging cellars.

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## Jordan forms sports observer committee

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Culture and Youth Abdullah 'Oweidat announced here Tuesday night the formation of a committee from his ministry to follow up the programmes of various Jordanian sports federations and clubs.

The committee will be entrusted with ensuring that the various clubs are committed to implement their programmes, the minister said at a meeting with representatives of Jordanian sports federations.

He said that these federations should shift part of their activities and programmes to various governorates and districts on regular basis. Dr. 'Oweidat criticised programmes presented by the sports federations in the country which he called haphazard and coming at random. "Going through the federations' activities I found no mention whatsoever of a plan for opening a branch of any federation in rural regions," the minister said at the meeting.

He called on federation chiefs

to draw up programmes for the whole year, to introduce amendments and modifications to such programmes from time to time and to include players from various parts of the country in national teams. The minister also called for honouring veteran sportsmen and women, who he said, had exerted great efforts to promote sport activities in Jordan.

Sport should be regarded as an educational process and not a commercial one, and Jordan should have its own national sports philosophy for the sake of preserving values among the youth, the minister said. He expressed his view that sports is part of the general culture of the society and an integral part of the Jordanian family.

## Top Belgian soccer men confess to fixing match

BRUSSELS (R) — The Brussels Public Prosecutor's office said Wednesday that officials and players of two top Belgian soccer clubs arranged bribes to fix the match which gave Standard Liege the 1981-82 Belgian League Championship.

A spokesman said Eric Gerets, captain of the Belgian national team and Standard captain in 1981-82, and two Standard officials

had confessed to paying a 420,000 franc (\$7,600) bribe to Waterschei to secure victory in that season's decisive final match.

Gerets, who now plays for the Italian club A.C. Milan, was detained by police Tuesday when he arrived to train at the national stadium in Brussels for Wednesday night's friendly match between Belgium and West Germany.

## Witch doctor comes to aid golf tournament

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — A witch doctor has been called in by the organisers of the four-day Malaysian Open Golf Tournament to keep away rain.

Tournament director Edmund Yong said the witch doctor, known locally as the Bomoh, was being summoned after an unusually long wet spell in peninsular Malaysia recently which had left a cloud of uncertainty hanging over the event.

"The weather has been unpredictable," said Yong. "Normally it is dry at this time of the year. I only hope that the weather will be fine," he said.

The Malaysian Open is scheduled to begin Thursday.

## Holmes, Coetzee to line up heavies showdown

NEW YORK (R) — Larry Holmes and South African Gerrie Coetzee, who both own a one-third share of the world heavyweight boxing title, will put their titles on the line over 15 rounds in July.

Promoter Cedric Kushner, who represents World Boxing Association (WBA) champion Coetzee, told Reuters the fighters had agreed terms and the bout would be held before the Olympics in July.

Sources said Holmes, who holds the International Boxing Federation (IBF) title, will receive \$8m and Coetzee \$3½m.

## S.Korea prepares for historic clash with China in Davis Cup

KUNMING, China (R) — South Korea's Davis Cup team relaxed at their hotel here Tuesday in preparation for their historic Eastern Zone second round tennis tie against China starting on Friday.

The eight-man squad, the first South Korean sportsmen ever to play in China, arrived here on Saturday for the tie and have been training at Kunming's modern sports centre.

Seoul and Peking, bitterly opposed since the Korean war of the early 1950s, still have no diplomatic relations and the event is receiving very low-key coverage in the Chinese press.

But the clash is seen as part of a thaw in relations which began last May when the two countries held their first-ever official talks following the hijacking to Seoul of a

Chinese airliner.

On Wednesday, as temperatures dropped from a balmy 22 degrees centigrade (72f) to an unseasonal six degrees (43f), the Koreans were closeted in their hotel discussing tactics.

China's decision to stage the match here, about as far away from their North Korean allies as possible, underlined the Peking leadership's extreme sensitivity over the event.

There are no South Korean flags on show at the indoor stadium, and no other overt signs that representatives of the South Korean state are in town.

For the South Koreans, their very presence is a diplomatic breakthrough and they are clearly not prepared to rock the boat. The team politely fend off reporters' questions about politics, saying they are merely here to play sport.

Apart from the match itself, the only official contact between the two sides will be Thursday's draw and a banquet due to be held Thursday night.

The South Korean team will be announced at the draw and the players will hold a final practice session afterwards.

China has also still to announce their team, but Liu Shuhua, at 1.88 metres (six feet three inches) China's tallest player, and the experienced You Wei were expected to spearhead the attack.

Both Liu and You scored singles victories in China's 4-1 first round win over Sri Lanka in Canton last month. The other members of the squad are Via Keqin, 22, and Li Shuchen, 24.

## Navratilova begins quest for biggest purse in women's tennis

NEW YORK (R) — Martina Navratilova began her quest for the biggest purse in the history of women's tennis — \$125,000 — with an impressive opening-round victory here Tuesday night in a \$500,000 tournament at Madison Square Garden.

Navratilova, who needed only 59 minutes for a 6-3, 6-1 victory over Virginia Ruzici, beat the Romanian player for the 13th time on the trot.

Joining the number one seed Navratilova in the quarterfinals

were third-seeded Pam Shriver of the U.S. and unseeded Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia.

Shriver defeated Wendy Turnbull of Australia 6-4, 6-4. The victory was the fifth in a row for Shriver over the Australian player, reducing Turnbull's lead in the head-to-head series to 11-8.

The big surprise of the opening round was Sukova's 7-6, (13-11), 7-6 (7-5) victory over fifth-seeded Jo Durie of Britain. Sukova, ranked 14th in the world, rallied from a 1-5 deficit in the first set.

"I got off to a terrible start and then I had nothing to lose," said the Prague teenager who fought

back to a 6-5 lead, before Durie broke in the 12th game to force a tie-breaker.

Durie rallied from a 1-6 deficit and fought off eight set points before Sukova hit a backhand service return that drew a half-volley error to win the first set.

The players battled to 5-5 in the tie-breaker before Sukova, who turned 18 years old last week, earned a match point when her forehand service caught the top of the net and skipped over Durie's racket.

The match ended on the next point after a Durie forehand went over the baseline.

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Documents are obtainable at APMC head office in Salt against the payment of a non-refundable fee of JD 25.

The last date for submitting bids is Saturday noon, March 31, 1984.

MANAGING DIRECTOR

### THE Daily Crossword by James H. Byrne

ACROSS	24 Sunbeams	62 Famous football coach	21 Chemical suffix
1 USA word: abbr.	25 Small ducks	66 Spokes	22 Opp. of long
5 Guinness of film	27 Inclination	68 Ostrich's cousin	26 Cape Kennedy sight
9 — Flow, Scot.	37 Persia, now	69 Moria critic	28 Small drink
14 Philopha Moslem	41 Leaf end	70 Originated Pauline	29 Snare
15 Etna product	42 More ashes	71 Electrical unit	31 Ancient Gr. coin
18 Four-bagger	44 Center	72 Lat. abbr.	32 Branch
17 Auditory	45 Sands, e.g.	73 Stores	33 Gratis
18 Arabian Sea	46 Drama	74 Being: Lat.	35 Of flying: pref.
19 Brass shape	48 Miss Sommer	75 Dries hay	36 Brand
20 Plymouth plus Parker House	49 Permeable		38 Address
23 Genetic code carrier	51 Shakespearean king		39 Patricia
	53 Carroll heroine		40 Light carriages
	56 Rolling stone lack		50 Transgress
	59 Navy man: abbr.		52 —, area...
			54 Baker's prefer
			55 System of values
			57 Use a link
			58 Stamin' Sammy
			59 Study hard
			60 Brazil estuary
			61 Reputation
			63 Morays
			64 Classify
			65 Extensions
			67 Adherent: suff.

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

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### SALE

On March 3 and 4 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., there will be a public bid sale of office and residential furniture, appliances and equipment. Bidding will be by sealed bid.

The sale will be held at the American Embassy Warehouse, located right before Al-Waha Dept. Store.

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## Ershad lifts ban on political activity

**DHAKA (R)** — President Hossain Mohammad Ershad said Wednesday he would restore free political activity from March 26 as a step towards returning Bangladesh to democracy.

Gen. Ershad, facing a determined anti-government campaign by opposition politicians, also said elections for the presidency and parliament would be held together on May 27 because this was what the country wanted.

"I passionately believe that free political activity is an essential prerequisite for democracy. This ought to be the basis of our future presidential and parliamentary elections," Gen. Ershad said in a

radio broadcast.

He said open-air political meetings, banned since November, would be allowed from March 26 to coincide with the country's 13th anniversary of independence. But he urged politicians to demonstrate responsibility.

The broadcast was made on the eve of a planned national strike called by the major opposition parties as part of their campaign to stop controversial local polling

planned for March 24.

But Gen. Ershad said these elections would go ahead because they were important for the country's future.

"These elections will... enable the elected leaders of the areas to become self-dependent and to initiate development plans according to their needs," he said.

Two alliances of 22 political groups, which called Thursday's strike, said the local elections would be invalid because they were being held by an illegal military government.

Dhaka was tense Wednesday after two students died Tuesday

when they were knocked down by a police van which ran into students demonstrating in support of Thursday's strike.

Opposition leaders described the deaths as "cold blooded murder." The government said the driver had lost control of the vehicle.

In the city's biggest college, Jagannath, students burned an effigy of Gen. Ershad and demanded the immediate transfer of power to civilians.

Troops in fatigues patrolled the southern part of Chittagong where marching students urged the public to obey the strike call.

## Kissinger's call to reshape NATO stirs alarm

**BRUSSELS (R)** — A call by former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger for a radical reshaping of NATO has set alarm bells ringing at alliance headquarters and in West Germany, but met with apparent indifference elsewhere.

Dr. Kissinger called in a Time magazine article this week for "Europeanisation" of the Atlantic alliance. He said the U.S. should withdraw up to half of its 320,000 troops from Europe if European countries proved unwilling to shoulder more of their own defence.

The quickest reaction came from West Germany, where most of the American troops are stationed. Alois Mertes, number two in the Bonn Foreign Ministry, said the proposals were "more harmful than useful to the alliance."

Diplomats at NATO headquarters said several West European governments feared Dr. Kissinger might be voicing aloud what senior Reagan administration officials were thinking privately.

Sources at the International In-

stitute for Strategic Studies in London saw Dr. Kissinger's remarks as alerting Europeans to growing U.S. opinion, especially among Republicans.

A European diplomat here said Dr. Kissinger was still influential in the U.S. foreign policy community and his ideas "could do untold damage there and here."

Dr. Kissinger argued in the Time article that the West European allies must be made to feel more directly responsible for their own conventional defence, otherwise they would drift into neu-

tralism and pacifism.

He proposed naming a European as NATO supreme commander, traditionally an American-held post, and putting Europeans in charge of arms control talks with Moscow about nuclear and conventional weapons in Europe.

NATO officials said some of the ideas might seem attractive at first sight, but the accompanying threat of withdrawing U.S. forces could foster the very nationalist tendencies which Kissinger sought to combat.

## U.S. Air Force plane crash kills 18 in Spain

**MADRID (R)** — Seventeen U.S. servicemen and a Spanish Air Force officer were killed when a U.S. Air Force C-130 Hercules transport plane crashed in northeast Spain Tuesday night, the Spanish Air Force said Wednesday.

There were no survivors. An air force statement said the plane came down near the town of Borja about 60 kilometres west of the city of Zaragoza, where the United States has a military air base under an agreement with the Spanish government. It lost contact with Air Force

Traffic Control while taking part in joint routine exercises between the Spanish and U.S. Armed Forces.

Heavy snow and thick fog in the region hampered the overnight search but U.S. and Spanish rescue planes and helicopters were guided to the crash site by signals from an automatic radio beacon aboard the crashed plane.

The U.S. Air Force at Ramstein, West Germany, said earlier the plane was based in West Germany and was on temporary duty in Spain.

## Thatcher faces more damage in British spy-centre row

**LONDON (R)** — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher faces growing political damage from a bitter row over union membership at an electronic espionage centre.

Although her deadline expires Thursday, officials say she will probably be unable to make a quick, clean sweep of union members from the radio eavesdropping centre in the western England spa town of Cheltenham.

After a day of widespread protest strikes, one of Mrs. Thatcher's unhappy Conservative Party supporters in parliament, Sir Kenneth Lewis, said Tuesday night: "The chances are that the next general election will be lost at this point."

About 10,000 people work for the centre. The government says that almost 80 per cent have bowed to its ultimatum to forswear union membership or face transfer or the sack.

But union officials say the technicians and translators who monitor the radio signals of foreign powers are so specialised that even a few holdouts could not be quickly replaced.

A significant number of refusals would leave Mrs. Thatcher facing a protracted struggle to enforce her edict, prolonging what many consider the most damaging fiasco of her time in office.

Tuesday's union protests silenced Wednesday's editions of national newspapers and disrupted transport, health services and the government bureaucracy around the country.

The unions say there will be further and worse disruptions if Cheltenham workers are sacked. Mrs. Thatcher says that the work of the Cheltenham Centre is so important that a series of small strikes there in 1981 represented a danger to the nation.

## Senate votes ban on nuclear exports to non-treaty nations

**WASHINGTON (R)** — The U.S. Senate voted Tuesday to prohibit exports of nuclear equipment or technology to nations which have not signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

The administration-opposed amendment to a pending bill revising export controls was supported by voice vote and supported by a coalition of conservatives and liberals fearing diversion of equipment to nuclear weapons.

Its critics argued the ban would not work since prohibited countries could get equipment elsewhere. The prohibition would affect countries not signing the 1968 treaty abiding by international Atomic Energy Agency safeguards.

The Senate measure is designed to tighten overseas shipments of high technology equipment that could be diverted to the Soviet Union.

Once the bill is completed it will have to be reconciled with a different measure passed in the House of Representatives last October, relaxing the burdensome procedures needed to win export licences.

Earlier Tuesday, the House passed a one-month extension of the present export control law expiring at midnight Wednesday.

The Senate plan would also prevent embargoes of agricultural products for foreign policy purposes such as the grain embargo imposed against the Soviet Union by President Carter after the 1979 Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

But it would give the administration a new foreign policy tool in addition to export controls by allowing a president to ban imports for foreign policy reasons.

## No nuclear weapons seen in U.S. 'star wars' defence

**WASHINGTON (R)** — The United States does not plan to put nuclear weapons in space as part of its proposed "star wars" defence and may not have to place any arms in orbit at all, according to President Reagan's science adviser.

George Keyworth said in an address to the Centre for Strategic and International Studies this week that non-nuclear technology was probably up to the task of destroying enemy missiles in flight.

"I don't think we can expect the American people to support the placement of nuclear weapons in space," he said, adding: "I would make one thing very clear: I don't see a critical role in this defence initiative for nuclear weapons per se."

He said the United States might be able to deploy its planned defence system on earth.

Mirrors orbiting in space could reflect ground-based lasers — intense beams of light — to destroy incoming missiles. Lasers could also be used for anti-satellite weapons, and Mr. Keyworth said he believed the United States could demonstrate before the end of this decade a ground based laser possibly powerful enough to reach 24,000 kil-

ometres, the height of major communications satellites.

The "star wars" concept was first outlined by President Reagan last March. It has aroused controversy because of its implication that space could become a superpower battlefield, because of its enormous development costs, and because some scientists seriously doubt such a system could ever work.

The administration plans to spend up to \$5.6 billion just over the next two years for research on a system designed to knock out enemy missiles with lasers and other new technology.

The New York Times Tuesday urged the administration to drop "exotic defences against ballistic missiles," saying in an editorial that these systems would breach treaties limiting anti-missile systems and banning nuclear explosions in space.

But Mr. Keyworth said the strategic defence initiative would be based on "building blocks" which would not in themselves constitute a new weapons system. "Such activity would be fully within the provisions of existing treaty limitations," he said.

## Truckers end six-day blockade at Alpine pass

**ROME (R)** — Truck drivers have ended their six-day blockade of the Brenner Pass between Italy and Austria, an Italian police officer at the Alpine pass said by telephone Wednesday.

On both the Italian and Austrian sides drivers had removed the blockades of heavy vehicles which had permitted only cars to cross the busy frontier since Thursday, the police officer said.

On Tuesday night an international committee of truckers decided at a meeting in Austria to lift the blockade from 0700 GMT Wednesday, Italian state-owned radio reported.

Spokesmen for the truckers and customs officials said the first lorry passed through from the Austrian side of the frontier, one of Europe's busiest north-south routes, shortly after 8 a.m. (0700 GMT).

Italian radio said Tuesday night's meeting, which was also attended by West German government and Bavarian regional officials, decided to end the six-day blockade on the basis of proposals by the Italian government.

Italian Finance Minister Bruno Visentini is due to meet representatives of Italian Haulage Associations in Rome later Wednesday to discuss ways of speeding up freight customs procedures on

the Italian side of the Brenner. The drivers, who blocked both sides of the Alpine pass with more than 2,000 heavy vehicles, complained of lengthy delays and bureaucratic problems with the Italian customs.

An Austrian Transport Company official said the truckers had been told by Austrian and West German government officials that they would press the Italian government for an improvement in clearance procedures by its customs officials.

The spokesman said he understood parallel talks with West German officials at Kiefersfelden, on the West German border with Austria, where long queues of trucks are also jammed up, had also reached agreement.

On Tuesday evening, Austrian truckers representative Hans Bachler told drivers at the Brenner that if negotiations with Austrian and West German government officials were successful, a start could be made towards moving the trucks Wednesday.

The Italian government said Tuesday night that it was urgently preparing measures to meet some of the truckers' demands.

The drivers had earlier said they would keep up their blockade until Italy satisfied their demands

## Elderly Armenian militant dies

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — An elderly Armenian militant who killed two Turkish diplomats in 1973 has died in a rest home, less than a month after being paroled from prison, authorities said Tuesday.

Mr. Kourken Migridich Yanikian, 88, died of natural causes Monday night at a convalescent home in the Sunland-Tujunga area about 24 kilometres north of downtown Los Angeles, said Phil Guthrie of the State Department of Corrections in Sacramento.

Mr. Yanikian was sentenced to life in prison in July 1973 for first-degree murder in the slaying of the Turkish diplomat. He had been in failing health for the past few years.

His parole Jan. 31 from the California Medical Facility at Vacaville triggered protests from the Turkish government.

On Jan. 28, 1973, Mr. Yanikian invited Mehmet Baydar, the Turkish consul-general in Los Angeles, and Bahadır Demir, the vice consul, to a hotel near Santa Barbara.

The diplomats were shot to death at the motel, and Mr. Yanikian admitted the killings, saying he was avenging the 1915 massacre of 1.5 million Armenians by the Ottoman Turks. The Turkish governments ever since have repeatedly denied the charges.

## THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Emerson

### COURSE WORDS

By Judson G. Trent

### ACROSS

- 1 Soft drink
- 5 Song about
- 10 Southwest
- 14 Under protection
- 18 Assort
- 22 Address
- 23 Choke
- 25 Hook
- 27 Legal papers
- 28 Lodge near
- 29 Slope
- 30 Spitfire
- 33 Br. mil. decoration
- 34 Flower
- 35 Pasture
- 37 Istanbul Inn
- 38 Lily
- 40 Farm equipment
- 41 Exclude
- 42 Prey
- 44 Footlike part
- 47 Microbe
- 48 Pub game
- 49 Turnout
- 50 Wild water
- 51 Buffalo
- 52 Cornish
- 53 Baked eggs
- 55 Correct
- 56 Settlement
- 58 Slick
- 59 Move
- 60 Annapolis, e.g.
- 62 Tahitian coins
- 63 Southwest
- 64 Morning prayer
- 65 Regional trees
- 68 On source
- 69 — Dime
- 70 Passenger
- 73 — suit
- 74 —
- 77 Sea bird
- 78 Ace
- 81 Kind of paper
- 82 Speedily
- 83 Soviet co-op
- 84 Era of Rome
- 85 Emulate W.J.
- 86 Byron
- 87 Colloid
- 88 Explosive
- 89 Polonium gas
- 91 Hairs
- 92 Broiler
- 94 Bag
- 95 Eagle
- 101 Dunes
- 102 Owl genus
- 103 Small lizard
- 104 Vehicle
- 105 Trammel
- 106 Left
- 107 Forest dairy
- 108 Cornery of time

### DOWN

- 1 White name
- 2 Ab — (from the start)
- 3 Blue
- 4 Overcome
- 5 Verily
- 6 Part of a
- 7 Responsibility
- 8 Island wealth
- 9 Part of a
- 10 Military
- 11 Archipelago
- 12 Dutch cheese
- 13 — room (den)
- 14 Food
- 15 Type
- 16 Peculiarity
- 17 Architect
- 18 Decrease
- 24 Passover meal
- 25 Angle
- 26 Gaucho weapon
- 30 Stern
- 31 Midwest VP
- 32 Lie
- 34 GOP, e.g.
- 35 New Haven's
- 36 Sir
- 38 Madrid male
- 39 Apes
- 40 Geyser
- 42 Kind of farm
- 43 Desecrate
- 44 Hole
- 45 County Clare
- 46 Egyptian
- 47 Nocturnal
- 48 Distress
- 50 Name in volume
- 52 Mutt
- 53 Dredge
- 54 Mast dance
- 55 St. Lo school
- 57 Type of poet
- 58 Plot
- 59 Raining
- 60 Agents
- 61 Heat Lat.
- 62 Laurel
- 63 Geyser
- 65 Apportion
- 66 Russ. writer
- 67 Part of NASA
- 68 Menorah
- 71 Age
- 72 — of robes
- 74 Declared
- 76 Recent
- 78 Onasie
- 79 Bridge
- 79 Most proud
- 80 Weapons
- 81 New, abstruse
- 82 Malodic
- 84 Musical
- 85 Levant or
- 86 Robertson
- 87 Driver
- 89 Quick delivery
- 90 Midland king
- 91 Fil
- 92 Horse race
- 93 Audit men
- 95 Curley's
- 96 — relief
- 97 One — million
- 98 Regret
- 99 Dr. reveal
- 100 Nether and —

### Diagramless

19 X 19, by Mary C. Whitten

### ACROSS

- 1 Hay
- 2 Scroop's word
- 3 Horse collar
- 4 Item
- 12 Farwell to
- 14 Aborted
- 16 Grinder
- 17 — the Bar
- 18 One who staves at stars
- 19 Close up
- 22 Saint of Ireland
- 24 Tyrannical
- 25 Corn
- 26 Lie
- 27 Boners
- 28 Football scores: abbr.
- 30 Stoppage
- 31 Pricings
- 34 Church
- 35 Council
- 36 Launch —
- 38 Refuse of movies
- 39 Coarse
- 40 Moore kin
- 41 "Return of the"
- 42 Draft org.
- 43 Motorcade
- 44 "In the bag"
- 45 Declared
- 47 — la la
- 48 Antidote
- 49 Hollander of
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- 52 Ramble
- 53 Michalango
- 54 Masterpiece
- 57 Slightly open
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- 59 Preface
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### DOWN

- 1 White prefix
- 2 Count
- 3 Last
- 4 Temper
- 5 Confine?
- 6 Prediction
- 7 Tool for shaping wood
- 8 Urin —
- 9 Vices
- 10 Mrs. Phil Harris
- 11 Before
- 12 Not refined
- 13 Ten-percenters
- 14 Small drink
- 15 Lanza and
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## COLUMNS 7 & 8

### 7 killed in Kentucky fire

**NEWPORT, Kentucky (AP)** — Fire swept through a three-story apartment building Tuesday night, killing seven people in one of the worst blazes in city history, authorities said. Three people were treated at a Newport hospital for shock, smoke inhalation and frostbite as they fled into the snow in -4 degree centigrade temperatures. The wind-chill factor at the time was -18 degree centigrade. The building had a fire escape that had been added to the building recently but the victims did not use it, Raff Quiter, a fireman said. "They evidently forgot about it or were driven away by the flames," he added.

### Jackson wins 8 Grammy awards

**LOS ANGELES (R)** — Singer Michael Jackson, whose album Thriller has become the best-selling long-playing record in history, Tuesday night dominated the 26th Annual Grammy Awards by taking home a record eight statuettes. Among his awards were record of the year and album of the year. Jackson, 25, nominated in 10 categories, also won Grammys for best pop vocal performance by a male, best rock vocal performance by a male, best rhythm and blues performance by a male, best rhythm and blues song, best producer and best recording for children. The previous record for an individual was set in 1965 by Roger Miller, who won six Grammys for his hit song "King of the Road". Sharing with Jackson in four of the awards, which are the American music industry's highest honour, was musician Quincy Jones, who co-produced the Thriller album with him. Seven of Jackson's awards came as a result of the Thriller album and two of its best-selling songs, Beat It and Billie Jean.

### Second Killer executed in Louisiana

**ANGOLA, Louisiana (R)** — The second person executed in this southern state in three months died in the electric chair shortly after midnight at the Louisiana penitentiary, authorities announced Wednesday. Johnny Taylor, 30, was convicted of stabbing David Vogler, 28, of Kenner, Louisiana, in 1981. The U.S. Supreme Court had refused a last-minute stay of execution after a federal appeals court had refused to block the execution. The courts rejected Taylor's pleas that the attorney at his 1981 trial did not competently represent him.

### Zimbabwe rebels cut off teachers' noses

**HARARE (R)** — Five teachers had their ears, noses and upper lips cut off by anti-government rebels who attacked a school in Zimbabwe's southern province of Masvingo, the Herald newspaper Wednesday quoted government ministers as saying. Education Minister Dzingai Murumbuka and Health Minister Sydney Sekeramayi told the daily after visiting the victims in hospital that they were horrified by the brutality of the rebels. The attack at Mulelezi School on Tuesday last week is the first reported rebel action in the area.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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### EVERY TRICK IN ITS TIME

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**  
 ♠ A1072  
 ♥ 5  
 ♦ K984  
 ♣ J842

**WEST** ♠ KJ83  
 ♥ J1092  
 ♦ 73  
 ♣ Q75

**EAST** ♠ Q95  
 ♥ 76  
 ♦ A1065  
 ♣ A1063

**SOUTH**  
 ♠ 64  
 ♥ AKQ843  
 ♦ QJ2  
 ♣ K9

The bidding:  
 South West North East  
 1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass  
 3 ♣ Pass 3 NT Pass  
 4 ♣ Pass Pass Pass  
 Opening lead: Seven of ♣.

Good technique might consist of no more than taking your tricks in the right order. Consider this hand from a recent rubber bridge game.

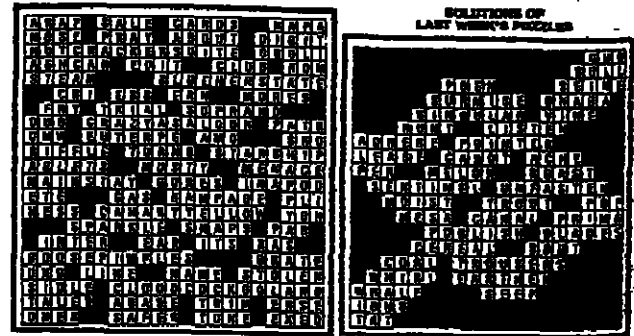
As so often happens, South overbid and underplayed his hand. He was a trifle weak for a jump rebid at his second turn, and his decision to remove three no trump to four hearts was sheer folly—he had a balanced hand.

West led his top diamond, East won the ace and returned the suit. Declarer won and

played four rounds of trumps, shuffling three black cards from dummy. West did not waste his chance—he won the fourth trump and shifted to a spade. Declarer could not untangle his diamond tricks and, though he led a club from the table to his king, he still ended up losing a trick in each suit.

It was suggested that declarer should draw only three rounds of trumps, cash the jack of diamonds and then cross to the table with the ace of spades to take a spade discard on the king of diamonds. But that is not quite good enough. West can foil declarer by ruffing the diamond and exiting with a spade. Declarer has no way to get to the board, and will end up losing two club tricks for down one.

The correct play is to combine these two lines. Win the second diamond, draw three rounds of trumps and cash the jack of diamonds. It does not help West to ruff, so he discards. But now declarer leads another trump. West wins and can do as he pleases, but declarer will end up in dummy with the ace of spades to take a spade discard on the king of diamonds and then lead a club to his hand for the contract.



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